



Plains Talk

Programs, Exhibits Statewide

Volume 41, Numbers 1 & 2 - Spring/Summer 2010

State Historic Sites Welcoming Summer Visitors

By Deborah K. Hellman

It's summertime and the visiting is easy and the learning fun at the State Historical Society's many popular historic sites and museums.

Visitors will be greeted with an abundance of new exhibits and returning popular programs this summer. Many of the sites opened May 16 for the season, which continues through September 15; others are open year-round. They offer entertaining and educational opportunities in every area of the state.

The newest state historic site, the award-winning **Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site**, continues to amaze visitors who pass through the security gates and tour this once-restricted Cold-War-era site. They are seeing a new exhibit providing an overview of the Cold War and the site at the Oscar-Zero Missile Alert Facility located four miles north of Cooperstown. A small theater has also been installed to show a brief orientation video as visitors begin their tour, as well as a museum store.

At the nearby November-33 Launch Facility, the unstaffed portion of the site, eight new outdoor panels tell the story of its mission. The site opened in July 2009 and has drawn thousands of visitors from all 50 states and more than a dozen foreign countries (see page 3).

The **Pembina State Museum** is featuring the traveling exhibit *Lincoln's Legacy in North Dakota*, commemorating the bicentennial birthday of the

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Photographs by Delores Linn, SHSND

\$134,000 in Grants Awarded by State Historical Society

By Amy Munson

Twenty-four organizations statewide are the recipients of \$134,000 in cultural heritage grants from the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND). A total of 65 organizations from all areas of the state applied for the grants from the state's history agency, requesting \$540,000.

Under the guidelines, a maximum of \$20,000 is available per grant, with a dollar-for-dollar match requirement. That match may be either in-cash or in-kind services. Funding for these grants were approved by the 2009 Legislative Assembly.

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MORE POPULAR THAN EVER

The *History Alive!* program at North Dakota's state historic sites is in its 23rd season this summer, more popular than ever. Five living history characters are portrayed. Shown here are the French nobleman and Dakota venture capitalist the *Marquis de Mores*, and his wife, *Medora, Madame de Mores*, portrayed by Lance Rustand and Karen Nelson, both of Dickinson; *A.T. Packard*, the 1880s editor of the Medora newspaper, *The Bad Lands Cow Boy*, portrayed by Donald Ehli of Dickinson; frontiersman and buffalo hunter *Yellowstone Vic Smith*, shown here, and Missouri River steamboat captain *Grant Marsh*, both portrayed by Arch Ellwein of Sidney, Montana. For the summer schedule, see the events calendar on pages 10-12.

Historic Sites Welcoming Visitors

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16th President (see page 5). Six outdoor interpretive panels are now in place at nearby **Gingras Trading Post State Historic Site**, providing visitors with information about the site at any time.

Children's reading and activity programs, blacksmithing classes, and Dutch oven cooking classes at **Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site** near Fargo has young and young-at-heart visitors exploring and experiencing history this summer at this historic "Gateway to the Dakotas."

Fort Totten State Historic Site is hosting a *Story Time* each Friday through August 20 and is also featuring the musical *Guys and Dolls* at the Fort Totten Little Theatre from July 7 through August 1. The popular *Living History Field Day*, which draws hundreds of area seventh graders, will again be featured in September. At the **Fort Totten Inn**, visitors are able to stay overnight and enjoy breakfast in the building first used as an officers' quarters and later as apartments for Fort Totten Indian School employees. For reservations or more information, call 701.766.4874 or visit the website at www.tottentrailinn.com.

At the **Chateau de Mores State Historic Site** visitors are enjoying *Living History Tours*, rewritten with a new perspective on the interpretation and characters. Join in birthday celebrations with cake and coffee for the Marquis de Mores June 12-14 and also for Madame de Mores's birthday August 21-22. The stagecoach running from the Chateau parking lot offers a glimpse into the transportation of a bygone era. *Murder and Mayhem in Medora*, part of the *Footsteps* program, reenacts the murder trial of the Marquis de Mores each weekend through Labor Day.

In August, **Fort Buford State Historic Site** will host the 28th *Annual Fort Buford 6th Infantry Frontier Military Encampment*, which will include the 2nd *Annual Dutch Oven Cook-Off*, where teams will demonstrate their Dutch oven cooking skills, vying for prizes and bragging rights! At the nearby **Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center**, the exhibit *Emigrants from the Empires: North Dakota's Germans* was recently installed. This exhibit investigates what it means to be German in North Dakota. Artifacts, photographs, and documents tell the story of who they are, how and why they emigrated, and how their culture and traditions still thrive in North Dakota.

Whitestone Hill Battlefield State Historic Site near Kulm in southeastern North Dakota will host its popular 11th *Annual Education Field Day* August 27, when area students visit to learn more about the site. An afternoon program for the whole family will take place August 29.

In Bismarck the **Former Governors' Mansion State**

Historic Site Annual Ice Cream Social (formerly called the *Annual Lawn Party*) will treat visitors to games, entertainment, and refreshments August 8.

Also in Bismarck, **Camp Hancock State Historic Site** is open this summer, welcoming visitors interested in learning more about this former military camp and U.S. Weather Bureau Station.

The **State Museum at the North Dakota Heritage Center** in Bismarck continues to feature fascinating exhibits for the whole family including: *Dakota: A Mummified Dinosaur*. Portions of this "dinomummy" are on display, revealing 67-million-year-old secrets about how dinosaurs looked and behaved. *How Does Your Garden Grow? Gardening in North Dakota* is an exhibit that follows a garden's progress from planting to harvest and finally preservation, featuring historic garden implements and original seed catalogs. *A Considered View: The Photographs of Wayne Gudmundson* is a body of work chronicling life on the Plains that offers a glimpse of Gudmundson's perspective through 21 black-and-white photographs.

For more information about programs, events, and exhibits at the State Museums and State Historic Sites, see the events calendar on pages 10-12 or visit the State Historical Society of North Dakota's website at www.history.nd.gov.

Working on the Expansion



Photograph by Brian Austin, SHSND

Planning for the expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck is an ongoing process, with the 97,000-square-foot addition nearly doubling the current facility size. Here, workers in February drill test holes to record information on soil conditions needed before the ground source heat pump system could be designed. To be located under the expansion's new parking lot, the geothermal field will include 170 wells at a depth of 250 feet. The 2009 Legislative Assembly authorized \$51.7 million for the expansion of exhibits and collections spaces of the state museum. Of this, \$39.7 million in state funds was appropriated. An additional \$12 million must come from private and federal funds, with at least \$6 million of this pledged before construction can begin. Groundbreaking is targeted for late this summer, with completion scheduled for 2014, the 125th anniversary of statehood for North Dakota.

Top Attraction

Lieutenant Governor Jack Dalrymple (right) and Commerce Department Commissioner Shane Goettle present the 2010 Governor's Travel and Tourism award as Attraction of the Year to Mark Sundlov, site supervisor for the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile Site near Cooperstown. The award was presented at the annual state tourism conference April 27 in Minot. Criteria for winning the award include significant attendance and involvement in tourism initiatives, a measurable economic impact, and an effective marketing program.



Photograph by North Dakota Tourism

Grants Awarded

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"We are delighted with the tremendous response to this program," said Merl Paaverud, SHSND Director. "It was a challenging task to review and make the choices from so many outstanding proposals and shows the real need locally for this kind of support. We hope to continue the State Historical Society's grant program in the future and appreciate the efforts of the North Dakota Legislature in making it a reality."

The following organizations were awarded grants:

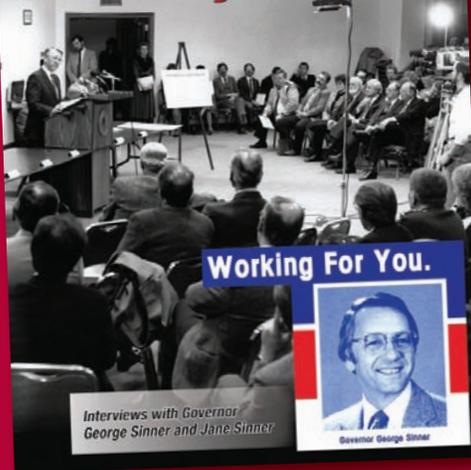
- **Bagg Bonanza Farm Historic Preservation Society, Wahpeton** – Replacement of the main house foundation - \$20,000
- **Barnes County Historical Society, Valley City** – Exhibit enhancement and archival supplies - \$2,000
- **Bismarck-Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society** – Initiatives in French Midwest Conference - \$1,850
- **Bowman County Historical Society, Bowman** – Pioneer Trails Museum website development - \$4,775
- **Cass County Historical Society, West Fargo** – Trangsrud House and elevator installation - \$10,750
- **Dickinson Museum Center, Dickinson** – Textile rehousing project - \$785
- **Divide County Historical Society and Museum, Crosby** – Collec-
- **tions reorganization and protection project** - \$4,500
- **Emmons County Historical Society, Linton** – Roof repairs to the Emmons County Museum - \$9,025
- **Fort Seward Interpretive Center, Jamestown** – Interactive media exhibit - \$2,500
- **Grand Forks Masonic Center Preservation Association, Grand Forks** – Survey and repair of stage drops - \$9,015
- **Griggs County Courthouse, Cooperstown** – Planning and assessment of the Griggs County Courthouse - \$7,500
- **Griggs County Historical Society and Museum, Cooperstown** – Entryway and lighting updates to museum - \$10,000
- **Hebron Historical and Art Society** in conjunction with the Morton County Historical Society, Almont Historical Society, Flasher Historical Society, New Salem Historical Society, Glen Ullin Historical Society – Historical heritage initiative - \$2,100
- **James Memorial Preservation Society, Williston** – Photograph exhibit and archives - \$671
- **Lisbon Park Board in conjunction with Jacob Gallagher** – Log cabin restoration Eagle Scout project - \$4,220
- **Mental Health America of North Dakota** – North Dakota State Hospital Museum intern, Jamestown - \$5,000
- **Museums in North Dakota in conjunction with TRACES Center for History and Culture** – North Dakota World War II traveling exhibit - \$8,135
- **New Salem Historical Society, New Salem** – Daily life in North Dakota documentary - \$5,000
- **Ox Cart Historical Society, Drayton** – Archival supply purchase - \$1,000
- **President's House Preservation Society, Valley City** – Refinish wood floors at the former Valley City State University President's House - \$3,085
- **Save Coghlan Castle, Inc., Rolla** – Coghlan Castle education workshop - \$5,000
- **Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Fort Yates** – Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Museum exhibit project - \$10,220
- **The Railroad Museum of Minot** – Purchase collections software and exhibit project - \$1,790
- **Williston Area Chamber of Commerce, Williston** – Archival organization of the William "Bill" Shemorry Collection - \$5,000

This is the second of two grant rounds for the 2009-11 biennium. In the first round, \$307,000 was awarded to 40 organizations statewide.

For more information, contact the SHSND's grants and contracts officer, Amy Munson, at 701.328.3573 or email at amunson@nd.gov.

North Dakota History Features Former Governor, Mrs. Sinner

North Dakota History
Journal of the Northern Plains
Vol. 75, Nos. 3 & 4 • \$14.95



Based on a series of interviews by George Sinner's press secretary Bob Jansen with the former governor, and including Jane Sinner's personal recollections, the latest issue of *North Dakota History* tells the couple's life stories in their own words.

Dakota State Senate, and from 1982-1984 in the North Dakota House of Representatives. In 1984 Sinner was elected governor, and re-elected in 1988. Despite an economic downturn that included a collapse of the state oil industry and the worst drought since the Great Depression, Sinner sought new programs to revitalize the state's economy. He helped start the Prairie Rose State Games, tried to get energy and environmental groups to work together, fought for the coal gasification plant at Beulah, and started the Lignite Research Council. In 1989, Sinner led the celebration of North Dakota's Centennial year of statehood.

His efforts slowed as a series of tax referrals hit in December 1989. Legislators had passed a one percent sales tax, as well as increases in income and gas taxes to help with declining revenues from oil, gas, coal, and agriculture. Eight measures were referred, including several anti-tax measures, and voters approved all of them. State leaders had to figure out a way to cut even more from the beleaguered state budget.

As governor, Sinner helped bring women to prominent positions in state government. North Dakotans saw their first female lieutenant governor (Ruth Meiers), and the first woman to serve in the U.S. Senate from North Dakota (Jocelyn Burdick). Others he appointed included the first woman state tax commissioner (Heidi Heitkamp), and

By Bonnie T. Johnson and Rick Collin

The latest issue of *North Dakota History*, the State Historical Society of North Dakota's (SHSND) history journal, features a 52-page article on former Governor George Sinner and First Lady Jane Sinner. "Service is the Most Gratifying Work": Governor George A. "Bud" Sinner" is the fifth in a series of journal articles featuring interviews with North Dakota's recent governors.

Born in Fargo in 1928 to Albert Francis and Katherine Wild Sinner, he was the youngest of four children raised on the family farm, originally part of the Dalrymple Bonanza operation near Casselton, North Dakota. As a youth growing up during the Great Depression and World War II, Sinner was raised to be frugal. He recalls rationing, family card games, and playing baseball with his brothers.

Sinner followed his brothers to St. John's Preparatory School in Collegeville, Minnesota, for his junior and senior years of high school, and continued to seminary at St. John's University, where he received a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy in 1950.

Following graduation, Sinner decided not to continue on into the priesthood. He enlisted in the Air National Guard during the Korean War and was called to active duty in April 1951. The highlight of his time in the military, he relates, is when he married Jane Baute and the couple had the first of their 10 children. After his military service, the Sinners returned to Casselton, where he joined his brother and brother-in-law in operating what is still the Sinner family farm.

From 1962-1966 he served in the North



SHSND Editor Kathy Davison presents an issue of *North Dakota History* to former Governor George Sinner and former First Lady Jane Sinner during an April 30 news conference at the North Dakota Heritage Center. Seated is First Lady Mikey Hoeven. A reception sponsored by the SHSND Foundation followed the news conference.

Photograph by Garry Redmann



Photograph by Garry Redmann

The Sinners stand next to outfits they have donated to the State Historical Society of North Dakota's collections. Sinner wore the suit when he delivered his inaugural address to a joint session of the Legislature in January 1985, as well as the inaugural ball and many other events. Mrs. Sinner accompanied him wearing this elegant sequined dress. She also wore it to a 1987 governors' dinner at the White House with President Reagan.

the first woman on the state Supreme Court (Beryl Levine).

A section in the article was written by Sinner's wife, Jane. She recounts the culture shock of leaving her home in Kentucky, raised to be a "proper lady" at home and at boarding schools in the South, to move to North Dakota to be a farm wife. She discusses how much she changed as First Lady of North Dakota – learning to work with employees, giving speeches and getting involved in projects such as preventing teen pregnancy, dining with President Reagan at the White House, hosting dignitaries and renovating the Governor's Residence, meeting Bill and Hillary Clinton while he was governor of Arkansas, and traveling to Taiwan and Korea.

After leaving office in 1992, the Sinners moved to Fargo, where he was hired by American Crystal Sugar Company to do lobbying work, often in Washington, D.C. The Sinners are now retired and enjoying their many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The idea of publishing oral histories of the state's most recent governors grew out of the 20th anniversary of the opening of the North Dakota Heritage Center, which included a forum featuring the state's six surviving governors. The journal series began with Governor John Davis, the earliest governor (1957-61) whose oral history is available in the collections of the State Historical Society, and has since included Governor William Guy (1961-73), Governor Arthur Link (1973-81), and Governor Allen Olson (1981-84).

The interviews with Sinner were conducted and edited by Bob Jansen, his press secretary during his eight years as governor. In 2005 Jansen began interviewing Sinner to develop a book that will be published by The Dakota Institute Press.

Copies of *North Dakota History* are available at some bookstores and newsstands statewide, the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store or by mail. To order, call the museum store at 701.328.2822 or email museumstore@nd.gov.

Lincoln and North Dakota



An exhibit detailing the many Abraham

Lincoln connections to what is now North Dakota is now featured at the Pembina State Museum.

Opening at the museum in northeastern North Dakota on the 201st birthday of our 16th President, *Lincoln's Legacy in North Dakota* was produced by the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

It highlights the Homestead Act, the coming of the railroad, and other Lincoln connections to the state. Lincoln never visited what is now North Dakota, but the land that is now the 39th state was forever changed by the policies and laws enacted during his Presidency, and these are featured. In addition to his signing of the Homestead Act and the Northern Pacific Railroad charter, the exhibit looks at his signing of the Morrill Land Grant College Act, which resulted in what is today North Dakota State University; the Minnesota Indian War of 1862, which included the Dakota (Sioux) siege of Fort Abercrombie; and remembering Lincoln, including the military forts and schools named in his honor.

The exhibit premiered at the North Dakota Heritage Center in February 2008 as part of the state's activities launching its observance of the Lincoln Bicentennial.



Photograph by Jeff Blanchard, SHSND

The *Lincoln's Legacy in North Dakota* exhibit will be at the Pembina State Museum through February 2012.

Education Theme, Part Two**North Dakota History Conference Set for October 29-30**

By **Bonnie T. Johnson**

Many changes have impacted education in North Dakota in the last six decades. School consolidations continue, educational technology is constantly changing, federal laws are greatly influencing how public schools operate, and alternative methods of educating North Dakota's young people are growing more widespread. Issues such as these, and more, will be addressed at the 22nd Annual Governor's Conference on North Dakota History, to be held October 29 and 30 at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck.

Sponsored by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND), this year's conference is entitled *The 3Rs in North Dakota: Education from 1951-2010*, the second in a two-part theme for the annual history conference. Last year's conference concentrated on how education was provided to North Dakota's youth from 1870 to 1950.

Conference sessions Friday, October 29 begin with a welcome by SHSND Director Merl Paaverud and North Dakota Superintendent of Public Instruction Wayne Sanstead. Dr. Mary Harris, chair of education at North Texas State and former dean of education at the University of North Dakota, will begin the day presenting "What Happened to Education?: 1951 to the Present."

Following Harris's discussion will be an update on the Historic Country Schoolhouse Survey Project, launched in conjunction with last year's conference, presented by SHSND Review and Compliance Officer Susan Quinnell and SHSND Research Archaeologist Amy Bleier. Conference participants are invited to help record information about the state's rural school buildings and about the people who taught and learned in these buildings. The process includes photographing, measuring, and noting architectural features of the building, as well as recording the relevant history of the schoolhouse site.

State Representative RaeAnn Kelsch (R-Mandan) will discuss how federal laws and funding impact schools, and Carole Barrett, associate professor of American Indian Studies at the University of Mary, will discuss Indian schools in North Dakota.

Also offered Friday will be an all-day workshop, "Cleaning Museum Artifacts: What's Right and What's Wrong," pre-

sented by Neil Cockerline of the Midwest Art Conservation Center in Minneapolis.

During Friday's dinner in the Heritage Center lobby area, the New Generation Jazz Choir of Bismarck High School will perform, followed by the annual awards presentation.

Saturday, October 30 morning programs will include "Changes in Education: 1951-Present" by Dr. Harris; "Changes in Technology" by Bismarck Public Schools' technology director Gina Swanson Phillips and Fargo Public School's technology director Cindy Bleier; and "North Dakota's Hot Lunch Programs" by Harvey Schilling, retired assistant superintendent for the Bismarck Public Schools and former head of its school lunch program.

In the afternoon, a panel of speakers from throughout the state will discuss alternative methods of teaching. They include Neil Howe of the North Dakota Center for Distance Education in Fargo, Cam Lehmann, a veteran North Dakota homeschooling teacher in Fingal, North Dakota, and Father Albert Leary of Strasburg, North Dakota, who has taught many years in central North Dakota's Catholic schools. The discussion will be moderated by SHSND Editor Kathleen Davison.

Concluding the day will be a panel session entitled "Beyond the Book." Speakers include retired Century High School band director Tim Fogderud, retired Bismarck High School coach and referee Jack Lynch of Bismarck, Richardton High School's speech and drama coach Susan Anderson, and Billie Anne Kaya, home economics teacher and cheerleading coach at Bismarck High School. They will share their experiences teaching the extracurricular activities that have enriched students' lives throughout the years in a panel discussion moderated by Walter Bailey, who recently retired as the SHSND's historic preservation planner.

For more information, contact SHSND Communications and Educator Director Rick Collin at 701.328.1476, email rcollin@nd.gov or SHSND Administrative Assistant Kiri Stone at 701.328.2799 or kstone@nd.gov. Pre-registration is required, and fees include lunch. Student rates are available. Pre-registration will begin in mid-July, online at www.history.nd.gov/historyconference/, as well as through the mail.

The topic for the 2011 Governor's Conference on North Dakota History will be *Too Much or Too Little: The Story of Water in North Dakota*, scheduled for October 28-29 at the North Dakota Heritage Center.



**STATE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
OF NORTH DAKOTA**

Homesteading in the Virtual World

By Rick Collin

Using a web-based program called Second Life, these images are from a “virtual world” educational course developed by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) designed to enable students to live the life of late 19th Century homesteaders.

The course was developed as part of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial observance in North Dakota in 2008-09. Lincoln signed the Homestead Act and the charter for the Northern Pacific Railroad, which had a major impact in opening up settlement of then-Dakota Territory.

Students use primary sources for researching the homesteaders, and use avatars (left) to select homesteads, build homestead shacks, plant and harvest crops, fight natural disasters, and more. Shown at right is the landscape from 1890s homesteading offered in the course, including the town where homesteaders buy supplies before heading out to the quarter sections (160 acres) open for settlement, ranging from the rough Badlands on the upper left to the flat prairies on the right.

SHSND Outreach Programs Coordinator Scott Schaffnit and recently retired Curator of Education Marilyn Snyder have conducted sessions about this cutting-edge program at two recent meetings, the first at last fall’s annual Mountain-Plains Museums Association confer-

ence in Cheyenne, Wyoming. They also presented at the April 23 spring meeting of Internet2, an Ann Arbor, Michigan-based consortium of universities, government agencies, and other institutions working to enhance their educational and research missions. Their program also included technology educators from Pennsylvania and North Dakota State University, presenting ways to collaborate on virtual-world educational methods for elementary and secondary students. For more about the consortium, visit www.internet2.edu.

The course is now available for educators and students at the elementary and secondary school levels. Teachers interested in offering the course can register online at www.history.nd.gov or contact Scott Schaffnit at 701.328.2794 or email sschaffnit@nd.gov.



Photograph by Diane Rogness, SHSND



Photograph by Cheryl Stein

Events celebrating the Yellowstone Masonic Lodge Historic Site near Fort Buford occurred May 21-23. Its charter was issued in 1871 and was the first Masonic Lodge in what became North Dakota. Its primary officers were 7th U.S. Infantry soldiers stationed at Fort Buford. The area’s second lodge, chartered in 1891-92, had as its members the African-American “buffalo soldiers” of the 10th U.S. Cavalry at Fort Buford. Here, at May 22 ceremonies, the original 1871 charter is held by Michael Bakken, the Grand Master of the North Dakota Grand Lodge. He is flanked by (l) the Grand Master of the Minnesota Grand Lodge, John Cook, Jr., and (r) Jim Savaloja, events chairman and a former Grand Master of the North Dakota Grand Lodge. Also attending was a former buffalo soldier; the U.S. Army disbanded the last buffalo soldier units in December 1951. (inset photo) This is the stone marker at the site of the first Masonic Lodge, located less than a mile east of Fort Buford.

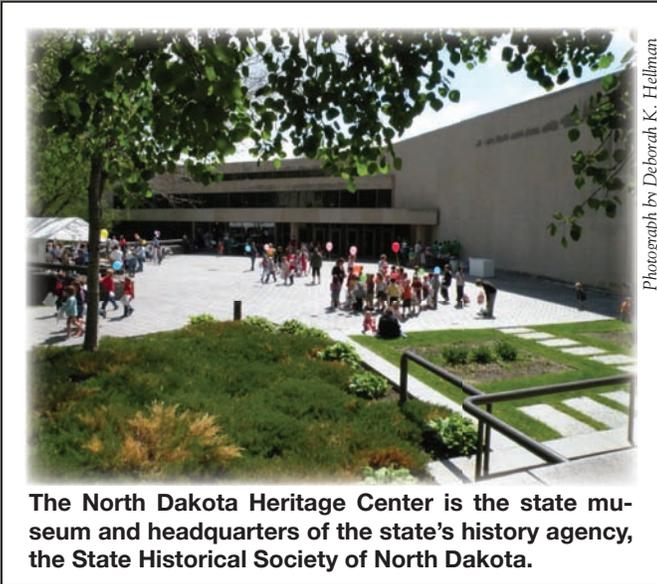
The State Museum North Dakota Heritage Center Accreditation Renewed

The North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck has again been awarded the highest honor a museum can receive: reaccreditation by the American Association of Museums (AAM).

“The Heritage Center is an exceptionally well-run organization and a model state museum,” the reaccreditation report states. “Exhibitions, outreach programs, education programs, historic preservation, publications, facilities, and collection management all reflect best practices in the field.”

Accreditation certifies that a museum operates according to standards set by the museum profession, manages its collections responsibly and provides excellent service to the public.

“This process was rigorous and demanding, as we examined virtually every aspect of the North Dakota Heritage Center’s operations,” said Merl Paaverud, director of the State Histori-



Photograph by Deborah K. Hellman

The North Dakota Heritage Center is the state museum and headquarters of the state’s history agency, the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

cal Society of North Dakota. “It included a year of self-study and an on-site review by a team of experienced museum professionals. We encourage North Dakotans and those beyond our borders to help us celebrate this award by visiting the Heritage Center and enjoying the many excellent programs, exhibits, and services it has to offer.”

The reaccreditation is good for 15 years, with the next AAM accreditation review scheduled for 2023.

Of the nation’s nearly 16,000 museums, only about 800 are currently accredited by the AAM. Open since 1981 and AAM-accredited since 1986, the North Dakota Heritage Center is one of only two accredited in the state; the other is the Plains Art Museum in Fargo.

Located on the state capital grounds, the North Dakota Heritage Center is full of temporary and permanent exhibits that preserve and tell the history and pre-

history of what is now North Dakota. In a cooperative agreement with the North Dakota Geological Survey, the Heritage Center also houses the State Fossil Collection. Admission is free. It is open year-round, closed only on New Year’s Day, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. For more information, visit the Society’s website at www.history.nd.gov.

New to the National Register

Properties in Washburn and Bismarck are the most recent North Dakota sites to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Ingersoll School operated until 1910, when it became a community center, but retains its prairie school character. It has been documented as part of the schoolhouse project spearheaded by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND). Those interested in helping to document this vanishing part of North Dakota’s history or who have questions about the



Photograph by Kathy Wilner

The Ingersoll School was built in Veeder Township near Washburn in 1885 and enlarged in 1903 to serve the growing needs of the community.

project should visit the Society’s website at www.history.nd.gov/hp/recordingbuildings.html contact SHSND Architectural Historian Lorna Meidinger at 701.328.2089, email lbmeidinger@nd.gov or SHSND Research Archaeologist Amy Bleier at 701.328.3088, email ableier@nd.gov.

Additions to the Bismarck Cathedral Area Historic District include the residences at 104-120 East Avenue B and 523 North First Street. Those properties have the same architectural styles as the existing district and were part of the planning and development that created the Cathedral neighborhood in the first half of the 20th Century.



Photograph by SHSND

The Bismarck Cathedral Area Historic District has been listed in the National Register since 1980, with additions to the Register also made in 1997.



A Call for 10 “History’s Heroes” to Step Forward in Every County in the State to Complete the Expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center

“What ‘heroes’ most often have in common is their willingness to step forward and accomplish great deeds on behalf of others. Supporters of the expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck are now using the ‘hero’ concept in the effort to raise funds for the project. A call is going out for 10 ‘History’s Heroes’ to step forward in every county in the state.”

Reprinted from the January 2008 *North Dakota Living*, publication of the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives.



Virginia A. Nelsen,
SHSND Foundation
Executive Director



**Bill Schott, leader
of the SHSND
Foundation’s
Trustee membership
development**



Marlo Sveen,
SHSND Foundation
Director of Development

During the 2009 Legislative Session, legislators were pleased to see that the State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation had provided a means for ordinary citizens to make a significant gift to the completing of the North Dakota Heritage Center with the “History’s Heroes” campaign. Mike Gustafson, SHSND Foundation board member, developed the concept of the “History’s Heroes” program. He retired eight years ago as the general manager of the Cass County Electric Cooperative. Mike testified a number of times during the 2009 Session and struck a chord with legislators, as they could see North Dakota families coming forward to give a \$10,000 donation over a five-year period. The “History’s Heroes” donation campaign is seeking 530 gifts of \$10,000 each, which will raise \$5.3 million for the campaign. The SHSND Foundation has committed to raise \$12 million in private contributions to complete the \$51.7 million Heritage Center expansion. \$39.7 million in state funds was authorized by the 2009 Legislature.



Mike Gustafson

As Mike Gustafson has moved across the state with the “History’s Heroes” campaign, community members have asked if they can contribute \$10,000 to the campaign to honor their local towns and cities. Yes, you can! Groups of individuals and/or businesses can combine their contributions to honor their local communities. The city commission may also choose to participate by acknowledging and authorizing the joint efforts of their community members.

As with family gifts and community gifts, each of the 530 donors will be acknowledged with a plaque in the new Heritage Center Legislative Hall of Honors, and a family or community history can be submitted as part of the recognition for the gift.

Foundation board members and staff, Foundation Trustees, regional service club leadership, business owners and more are networking with the Foundation to identify potential “History’s Heroes.” Join our efforts – you can be a ‘hero’ too.

Check it out! *The SHSND Foundation’s Expansion Campaign Website* www.statehistoricalfoundation.com

JUNE

June 2

Making a Splash at Your Library kickoff of summer reading program, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with many activities throughout the day for children. Free and open to the public. North Dakota Heritage Center, 701.328.2794.

June 4-August 20

Story Time, Fridays, 2 p.m., Fort Totten State Historic Site, 701.766.4441.

June 5-6

History Alive! performances featuring the 1880s editor of *The Bad Lands Cow Boy*, A.T. Packard, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

June 5-September 5

Recollections of Murder and Mayhem in Medora, a 20-minute theater production dramatizing the conflict between cowboys and outsiders over land use and barbed wire. Courtroom of the Billings County Courthouse Museum in Medora, Saturday and Sunday at 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. (MT), 701.623.4355.

June 8-August 18

Living History Tour on Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m. (MT) for senior citizens and Wednesdays at 2:30 p.m. for children, Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

June 8

Launch of the updated **Passport to North Dakota History**, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., North Dakota Heritage Center. This third edition is being released at a news conference and reception hosted by the Tesoro Corporation, which provided a \$25,000 grant to print this edition. The passport's theme is *Power of the Past*, highlighting a new partnership with almost two dozen energy organizations. Using a new map designed by Basin Electric Power Cooperative, the Energy Trail map features energy plants, a refinery, wind farms, and more that travelers can tour, in addition to the sites featured in the earlier editions. The North Dakota Department of Transportation has provided a large template of the state map to list the locations of the historic sites featured in the passport. The passport provides thumbnail sketches, pictures, and maps, as well as the companion program, *History on Call*, where callers can use their cell phone to hear short narratives of the passport historic sites as well as narratives about exhibits at the North Dakota Heritage Center. These partnerships are being organized by the State Historical Society of North Dakota and its Foundation, 701.222.1966.

June 10

Fort Buford History Book Club, 7 p.m. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Please call in advance, 701.572.9034.

June 12

Quilting Group Meeting, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

June 12-13

Old Time Music Festival, Ogg Creek String Band, Family Folk and more, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 12, and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. June 13, including flag retirement ceremonies, Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

June 12-13

History Alive! performances featuring the *Marquis de Mores*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

June 14

De Mores Day. Celebrate the Marquis de Mores's 152nd birthday! Cake and coffee in the interpretive center 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

June 19

Knit in Public Program, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., part of World-Wide Knit in Public day. Knitters, crocheters, spinners, and other fiber artists are welcome to participate. Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site, Bismarck, 701.328.9528.

June 19-20

History Alive! performances featuring the charming hostess of the Chateau, *Madame de Mores*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

June 19-20

History Alive! performances featuring legendary steamboat captain *Grant Marsh*, 2 and 4 p.m., Fort Buford State Historic Site, 701.572.9034.

June 24

Children's Reading and Activity Program, 1 to 3 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

June 26

Dutch Oven Cooking Classes, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

June 26

Confluence Quilters, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join the Confluence Quilters for their monthly meeting at the Confluence. All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

June 26-27

History Alive! performances featuring buffalo hunter *Yellowstone Vic Smith*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

July

July 1

Children's Reading and Activity program, 1 to 3 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

July 3-4

History Alive! performances featuring the 1880s editor of *The Bad Lands Cow Boy*, A.T. Packard, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. (MT). Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

July 4

Old-fashioned Fourth of July Celebration, children's games, living history, and more, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

July 7-August 1

Guys and Dolls, Fort Totten Little Theatre, with opening night July 7. A show every Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday. Fort Totten State Historic Site, 701.766.4441.

July 8

Children's Reading and Activity Program, 1 to 3 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

July 8

Fort Buford History Book Club, 7 p.m. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Please call in advance, 701.572.9034.

July 9

State Historical Board Summer Meeting, and **SHSND Foundation Meeting**, 10 a.m., Jamestown.

July 9-10

Bismarck French Heritage Convention, North Dakota Heritage Center. Initiatives in French (IF) Midwest and the Bismarck Mandan History and Genealogy Society are working in collaboration to create a unique and instructive convention on genealogy and French heritage. For more, visit the IF Midwest website at <http://www.ifmidwest.org/en/news.html>.

July 10

Quilting Group Meeting, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

July 10-11

History Alive! performances featuring the *Marquis de Mores*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

July 15

Children's Reading and Activity Program, 1 to 3 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

August

July 17-18

Blacksmithing and Wheelwright Demonstrations, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

July 17-18

History Alive! performances featuring the charming hostess of the Chateau, *Madame de Mores*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

July 22

Children's Reading and Activity Program, 1 to 3 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

July 24

Second Annual Pride of Dakota and Local Products Showcase, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fort Buford State Historic Site, 701.572.9034.

July 24

Dutch Oven Cooking Classes, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

July 24

Confluence Quilters, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join the Confluence Quilters for their monthly meeting at the Confluence. All experience levels invited, and instruction provided. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

July 24-25

History Alive! performances featuring buffalo hunter *Yellowstone Vic Smith*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

July 29

Children's Reading and Activity Program, 1 to 3 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

July 30

Program on New Book, *Prairie Lightning: The Rise and Fall of William Drew Washburn*, by Kerck Kelsey, 2 p.m., North Dakota Heritage Center, 701.328.1476.

July 31

Killdeer Mountain History Hike. Take a guided hike to the top of Killdeer Mountain and hear about the 1864 Battle of Killdeer Mountain and the Medicine Hole. For more, call Diane Rogness at 701.328.3508.

July 31-August 1

History Alive! performances featuring the 1880s editor of *The Bad Lands Cow Boy*, *A.T. Packard*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

July 31-August 1

History Alive! performances featuring buffalo hunter *Yellowstone Vic Smith*, at 2 and 4 p.m., Fort Buford State Historic Site, 701.572.9034.

August 5

Children's Reading and Activity Program, 1 to 3 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

August 7

16th Annual Gingras Day! celebration at the Gingras Trading Post State Historic Site, held in conjunction with the *Annual Art and Heritage Festival* at Riverside Park in Walhalla. Events at Gingras Trading Post will celebrate Métis culture and the 19th Century fur trade era. This year's *Arts and Heritage Festival* will focus on art. All events are free and open to the public, 701.825.6840.

August 7-8

History Alive! performances featuring the *Marquis de Mores*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

August 8

Annual Ice Cream Social, 1 to 4:30 p.m., Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site. Sponsored by the SHSND and Society for the Preservation of the Former Governors' Mansion, 701.328.9528.

August 12

Children's Reading and Activity Program, 1 to 3 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

August 12

Fort Buford History Book Club, 7 p.m. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Please call in advance, 701.572.9034.

August 14

Quilting Group Meeting, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

August 14-15

History Alive! performances featuring buffalo hunter *Yellowstone Vic Smith*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

August 21

28th Annual Fort Buford 6th Infantry Frontier Military Encampment, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Be at Fort Buford when it comes to life as the 6th Infantry Regiment Association fills the barracks and parade ground, Fort Buford State Historic Site, 701.572.9034.

August 21

Second Annual Dutch Oven Cook-off in conjunction with the Fort Buford Military Encampment. Prizes for first, second, and third place, and the People's Choice Award. Fort Buford State Historic Site, 701.572.9034.

August 21

Celebrate Madame de Mores 154th birthday! Cake and coffee served in the interpretive center, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (MT). The *Madame de Mores* will be at the center, mingling with visitors, Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

August 21

Confluence Quilters, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join the Confluence Quilters for their monthly meeting at the Confluence. All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

August 21-22

History Alive! performances featuring the charming hostess of the Chateau, *Madame de Mores*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

August 27

11th Annual Education Field Day, area students visit to learn more about the site, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sponsored by the SHSND and the Whitestone Hill Battlefield Historical Society. Whitestone Hill Battlefield State Historic Site, near Kulm, 701.328.3508.

August 28

Dutch Oven Cooking Classes, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

August 28-29

History Alive! performances featuring the 1880s editor of *The Bad Lands Cow Boy*, *A.T. Packard*, at 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. (MT), Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

August 29

Whitestone Hill Battlefield afternoon public program, 701.328.3508.

September

September 4-5

History Alive! performances featuring legendary steamboat captain *Grant Marsh*, 2 and 4 p.m., Fort Buford State Historic Site, 701.572.9034.

September 4-5

Concert at the Chateau, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. each day (MT), free. Country and western singer Greg Hager of Valley City, North Dakota performs on the patio of the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center, 701.623.4355.

September 9

Fort Buford History Book Club, 7 p.m. Join other history buffs in an interesting discussion of the month's selected book. Free refreshments. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. Please call in advance, 701.572.9034.

September 9-12

Learning Lodge at the United Tribes International Pow Wow in Bismarck sponsored by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. For more, call 701.328.2794.

September 11

Quilting Group Meeting, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

September 12

Flag Retreat at Fort Buford State Historic Site, marking shift to winter hours, 2 p.m. Winter hours, which run September 16 to May 14, are Wednesday-Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. 701.572.9034.

September 13

18th Annual Living History Field Day, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., free public admission, \$2/student materials fee. Student registration required. Sponsored with the Fort Totten State Historic Site Foundation, Fort Totten State Historic Site, 701.766.4441.

September 15

Last day North Dakota State Historic Sites open for the season.

September 16

North Dakota State Historic Sites closed for the season. **Pembina State Museum** begins winter hours through May 15, Mondays through Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. Central Time. **Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center** begins winter hours through May 15, Wednesdays through Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. Central Time. **Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center** begins winter hours through May 15, Wednesdays through Sundays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mountain Time. The **Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site** begins new hours through October 31, Thursday-Saturday and Monday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Central Time, then November 1 through February 28 by appointment. **Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site** begins winter hours through May 15, second Friday and Saturday of each month, 1 to 5 p.m.

September 18

Confluence Quilters, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join the Confluence Quilters for their monthly meeting at the Confluence. All experience levels invited and instruction provided. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

September 29-October 2

State Historical Society of North Dakota exhibit booth at Norsk Høstfest, Minot, 701.328.2794.

North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck

Dakota: A Mummified Dinosaur

Museum Entrance

One of the rarest types of dinosaur fossils was found near Marmarth, North Dakota in 1999 – a mummified duck-billed dinosaur known as a hadrosaur. Portions of this “dino-mummy” are on exhibit, revealing 67-million-year-old secrets about how dinosaurs looked and behaved. “Dakota” will remain at the Heritage Center at least until July 2015.

How Does Your Garden Grow? Gardening in North Dakota

James E. Sperry Gallery

Through November 6, 2011

Short growing seasons and cold winters have always challenged North Dakota gardeners. From native Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara gardeners to the modern North Dakota State University extension horticulturalists, people have worked to produce fruit and vegetable varieties that are cold-hardy, fast-growing, and drought resistant. This exhibit follows a garden's progress from planting, to harvest, and finally preservation. Historic garden implements and original seed catalogs are featured.

A Considered View: The Photographs of Wayne Gudmundson

Auditorium Gallery

Through October 10, 2010

Wayne Gudmundson has been photographing the Upper Midwest for more than 35 years, and in that time has created a body of work chronicling life on the Plains. This exhibit offers a glimpse of his perspective through 21 black-and-white photographs. Gudmundson's work has been featured in museums worldwide, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. *A Considered View* is organized and circulated by the Plains Art Museum in Fargo, North Dakota. This traveling exhibit and catalog are supported in part by grants from the North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies at North Dakota State University, the Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation, the North Dakota Council on the Arts, and the American Masterpieces Initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Corridor of Time

Main Gallery

Permanent Exhibit

This exhibit depicts what life was like in North Dakota millions of years ago. One area explores the Late Cretaceous (about 65 million years ago) and early Paleocene (about 60 million years ago) periods – a time when the region's climate and environment resembled that of the Florida Everglades. An expanded section, which opened in December 2008, depicts life and geology of the Paleozoic Era (250 to 540 million years ago), through the Paleocene and Oligocene Eras (24 to 34 million years ago). Developed by the State Historical Society of North Dakota and the North Dakota Geological Survey.

The USS North Dakota and Nautical North Dakota

Hall of Honors

Permanent Exhibit

Featuring historic photographs and objects associated with the USS *North Dakota* battleship, this exhibit also includes objects and photographs of other vessels with North Dakota ties, such as the *Gurke*, named after Medal of Honor recipient Henry F. Gurke of Neche, N.D., the *Devils Lake*, the *George A. Custer*, the *Arikara*, and the recently commissioned supply ship, the *Sacagawea*.

Recent Acquisitions

Museum Entrance

No Closing Date

A mini-exhibit featuring a selection of recently donated objects to the SHSND's collections. As an annual project done by the agency's interns, the *Recent Acquisitions* exhibit is changed each summer.

Pembina State Museum, Pembina

Pembina Today *Permanent Exhibit*

An updated display in the museum's permanent gallery, *Pembina Today* highlights current trends in industry, agriculture, and recreation in northeast North Dakota.

Lincoln's Legacy in North Dakota *Through February 2012*

Abraham Lincoln's connections to North Dakota – then northern Dakota Territory – are many. This exhibit, which opened on the 201st anniversary of his birth, examines Lincoln's legacy in the 39th state, as North Dakota and the nation commemorate the bicentennial birthday of its 16th President (see page 5).

Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora

Rails, Ranching and Riches: The Marquis de Mores in Dakota *Permanent Exhibit*

This exhibit at the site's interpretive center tells the story of the Marquis de Mores (1858-96), a French nobleman and entrepreneur who, from 1883 to 1886, ran a cutting-edge meatpacking plant and other businesses in the town he named after his wife, Medora. His family's 26-room summer home includes thousands of original artifacts. Featured is a smaller-scale refrigerator car, along with the *Deadwood*, an original stagecoach from the Marquis's Deadwood and Medora Stage and Forwarding Company.

The Art of Einar Olstad *Through October 17, 2010*

Inspired by the people, scenery, and ranch life of the Dakota Badlands, rancher and artist Einar Olstad (1878-1955) captured the essence of the American West in his whimsical and often humorous portrayals of the Dakota cowboy. In addition to a wide selection of his evocative paintings, objects relating to ranching life in the 1930s are on display.

The Photographs of Frank B. Fiske *Through October 17, 2010*

Born in Dakota Territory, Frank Bennett Fiske (1883-1952) spent most of his life in the Fort Yates area. At the age of 17 he took over the post photography studio. Although Fiske is best known for his portraits of American Indians, he left behind thousands of images that document life in central and southern North Dakota during the first half of the 20th Century. On display are a select portion of photographs, focusing on daily life at Fort Yates.

Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, Fort Buford State Historic Site, near Williston

Emigrants from the Empires: North Dakota's Germans *Through April 2012*

This exhibit investigates what it meant to be German in North Dakota before and after both world wars. Artifacts, photographs, and documents tell the story of who they are, how and why they emi-

grated, and how their culture and traditions still thrive in North Dakota.

Trails, Tracks, Rivers and Roads *Permanent Exhibit*

This exhibit at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center features the resources of the confluence and the transportation systems that brought people to those resources.

Life By the Bugle *Permanent Exhibit*

This permanent exhibit in the Field Officer's Quarters explores the life of a frontier military officer at Fort Buford, as well as examines the role of women at an army post. Several objects original to Fort Buford's days as a military post from 1866 to 1895 are displayed.

Fort Totten State Historic Site, near Devils Lake

Land in Her Own Name *Through September 15, 2010*

North Dakota State University sociologist Elaine Lindgren spent five years studying 292 cases of women who homesteaded in North Dakota. This exhibit is based on her research. The voices of these extraordinary women are combined here in a strong, clear story about our land and people. The women are identified by the names they used when filing claims.

Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site, Bismarck

From Buckets of Oats to Quarts of Oil *Permanent Exhibit*

Located in the site's carriage house, this exhibit illustrates the transition from horse and buggy to the automobile.

Camp Hancock State Historic Site, Bismarck

The Four Seasons at Camp Hancock *Permanent Exhibit*

This exhibit looks at the history of the site through the seasons. The oldest building in Bismarck, this is the only structure remaining from the U.S. Army infantry post stationed here from 1872 to 1877. After it was decommissioned, it served as the U.S. Weather Bureau Station for the region from 1894 to 1940.

SHSND Exhibits

For information about the SHSND's many exhibits, contact Curator of Exhibits Genia Hesser at 701.328.2102. For a complete listing and availability of the popular Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service (TIES) Program, contact Outreach Programs Coordinator Scott Schaffnit at 701.328.2794. Additional information is available at the Society's website at www.history.nd.gov

Upcoming Conferences

The **Mountain-Plains Museums Association (MPMA)** will hold its 56th annual conference September 13-17 in Rapid City, South Dakota. The theme is "Monumental Visions: Carving the Future for Museums." For more, call the MPMA at 303.979.9358 or visit www.mpma.net.

The **5th Annual Theodore Roosevelt Symposium** will be held September 16-18 at Dickinson State University (DSU) in Dickinson, North Dakota. The theme is "The President in the Arena." For more, call DSU at 701.483.2166, 1.866.496.8797 or visit www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org.

The **18th Annual West River History Conference** will be held September 23-25 at the Surbeck Center, the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology in Rapid City, South Dakota. The theme is "Relative Riches." For more, call Shebby Lee, President, West River History Conference, at 605.343.4852 or email wrhc@shebbyleetours.com.

The **68th Annual Plains Anthropological Conference** will be held October 6-9 at the Radisson Inn Hotel in Bismarck, North Dakota. Sponsored by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. For more, contact Conference co-chairs Amy Bleier at ableir@nd.gov, Paul Picha at ppicha@nd.gov or 701.328.2672.

The **45th Annual Northern Great Plains History Conference (NGPHC)** will be held October 13-16 at the University of North Dakota (UND) in Grand Forks. Sponsored by the Department of History at UND. For more, contact Dr. Kimberly Porter, Program Chair, at 701.777.3681 or email at kimberly.porter@und.edu. The Society for Military History will also sponsor sessions at the NGPHC.

The **50th Annual Western History Association (WHA) Conference** will be held October 13-16 in Incline Village, Nevada. The theme is "Many Wests." For more, call the WHA at 314.516.7282, visit www.westernhistoryassociation.org or email wha@umsl.edu.

The **National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP)** will hold its annual National Preservation Conference October 27-30 in Austin, Texas. The theme is "Next American City, Next American Landscape." For more, call the NTHP at 1.800.944.6847, email at conference@nthp.org or visit www.preservation.org.

The **22nd Annual Governor's Conference on North Dakota History** will be held October 29-30 at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck. This is the second year of a two-part education theme, with this year's conference entitled "The 3 Rs in North Dakota: Education from 1951 to 2010." The 2009 conference covered the years 1870 to 1950. For more, call Rick Collin at 701.328.1476, email rcollin@nd.gov or visit www.history.nd.gov.

TIES (Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service)

Bridges of North Dakota
Barnes County Historical Society
through mid-June

Heart of America Library,
Towner, North Dakota
September 7 through October 16

Land in Her Own Name
Fort Totten State Historic Site
through September 16

Seeds of Victory
The International Peace Gardens,
Dunseith, North Dakota
through June 30

The Photographs of Frank B. Fiske
Chateau de Mores State Historic Site
through October 17

Transitions

Erik Holland began work April 1 as curator of education. Prior to that, he served as site supervisor, beginning in August 2009, at Fort Buford State Historic Site, which includes the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, near Williston. He worked as an interpretive program associate and interpretive program specialist for historic sites at the Minnesota Historical Society from 1998 to 2009, and as the interpretive supervisor of Powhatan Indian Village at the Jamestown Settlement Living History Museum with the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation in Virginia from 1993 to 1998. Prior to that, Holland was a park ranger/interpreter at the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site near Stanton, North Dakota. He has worked previously for the State Historical Society of North Dakota as site supervisor of Fort Clark State Historic Site near Washburn, from 1975 to 1984. Holland received a master of arts degree in history from the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, and a bachelor of

arts degree in anthropology and archaeology from the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks.

Walter Bailey retired effective May 1. He was an agency resource/expert on issues ranging from preservation planning and historic research projects to the history of Dakota Territory and North Dakota, including the fur trade, steamboat, and Indian Wars eras. He was employed as the State Historical Society's historic preservation planner since 1973. Bailey was honored by his colleagues in 2000, when they selected him to receive the Staff Award for Excellence as the agency's outstanding staff member.

David Fournier retired effective May 1 from his work as a security officer/instrument technician. A native of Pembroke, Ontario, he began working for the agency in 1984. He earned a trade degree from the Cleveland Institute of Electronics. Fournier served in the U.S. Marine Corps, including two tours in Vietnam, from 1967 to 1971, during the Vietnam War.

Marilyn Snyder retired effective April 1. As curator of education since March 2001, she developed several popular agency programs, including *Sensational Sundays* and High Teas at the Former Governors' Mansion, hosted by former First Lady Grace Link. She began the *Teaching in the Gallery* program at the North Dakota Heritage Center, where elementary school students from Bismarck public schools work with student teachers from the University of Mary and Dickinson State University. Also known as the Snow Angels Lady, Snyder organized the successful effort February 17, 2007 reclaiming North Dakota's title in the *Guinness Book of World Records* for the most snow angels made at one time, with 8,962 participants on the state capitol grounds. The record still stands.

Photo Archivist **Sharon Silengo** has been awarded a certificate of advanced study in archives and records information from the University of Wisconsin in Milwaukee. She primarily examined the topic of electronic records and their selection, management and preservation. Silengo has been the agency's photo archivist since July 2000. A California native, she has also been designated as a certified archivist by the Academy of Certified Archivists.

Fort Totten Book Now Available

By Kathleen Davison

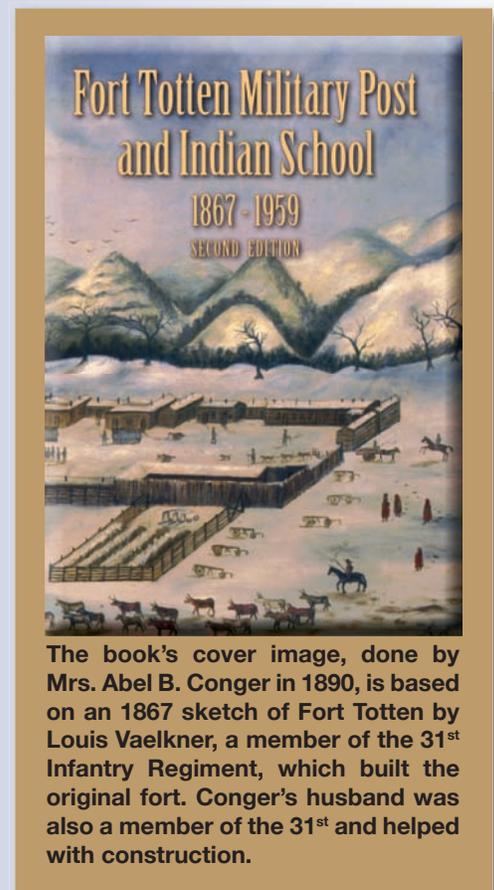
Few sites are more important in the story of the military experience on the Northern Plains than Fort Totten State Historic Site near Devils Lake, North Dakota. Fewer still tell so much of the history of the complex relationship between the U. S. government and the Indian people who first inhabited this region.

A new publication by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND), *Fort Totten Military Post and Indian School, 1867-1959, Second Edition*, makes that story available to the public. The first edition was published in 1986, and this new edition retains some material from the first publication but also includes new articles, interviews, and photographs that add to the original story.

Fort Totten was established in 1867 in the aftermath of the Dakota Conflict of 1862 in Minnesota, the culmination of years of broken treaties and promises that left the Dakota people desperate and in fear of starvation. After bands of Dakota warriors attacked settlers and towns, Minnesota militia units defeated the warriors and many Dakota people, most of whom had not participated in the conflict, fled west to avoid the punitive military response. Some fled to Dakota Territory and the Devils Lake region.

By 1866 the eastern Dakota people had been largely defeated or had fled to Canada, and the creation of reservations to restrict their movements became the government's goal. A reservation was established at Devils Lake, to be kept under the watchful control of a new military post, Fort Totten. Temporary wood buildings were constructed in 1867, followed by permanent brick buildings made from local clay. By 1878 Fort Totten had been transformed into a neat rectangle of painted brick buildings and looked much the same as it now does, more than a century later.

Fort Totten's role in providing protection for travel routes west came to an end as the area was increasingly settled; its role in settling and supervising the Devils Lake Indian Reservation also became less important as the In-



The book's cover image, done by Mrs. Abel B. Conger in 1890, is based on an 1867 sketch of Fort Totten by Louis Vaelkner, a member of the 31st Infantry Regiment, which built the original fort. Conger's husband was also a member of the 31st and helped with construction.

continued next page

dian Bureau administration expanded. In 1891 the military post was turned over to the Indian Bureau, and the post became the Fort Totten Indian School, a role it fulfilled until the school was closed in 1959 and the post became a state historic site.

The book tells the history of Fort Totten in a series of articles. In the opening article J. Michael McCormack, a professor of history at Bismarck State College, sketches Fort Totten's role as an agent of the drive to pacify Plains Indians. Its title, "Soldiers and Sioux: Military Life among the Indians at Fort Totten," is an indication of the close relationship between the army units at the remote outpost and the Indian people who settled there.

The second article, "A Beacon of Indian Education," details the next phase of Fort Totten's history. James T. Carroll shows how federal policy shifts toward Indian people are reflected in the history of the Fort Totten Industrial Indian School. Throughout its history, soldiers, missionaries, and teachers worked to suppress native culture and promote rapid assimilation into the majority society. Carroll shows how the school was a story of grand plans that were not achieved, often because of a lack of adequate funding and the failure to consider the goals and concerns of the Indian students and their parents. Nevertheless, the school did provide the population of two reservations, Devils Lake and Turtle Mountain, with the basic resources and skills need to deal with the culture surrounding them. Carroll is an associate professor of American history at Iona College in New York.

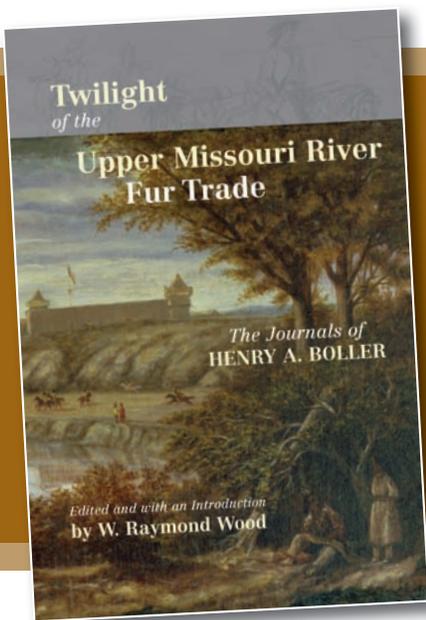
The next article, "In Their Own Words," is a collection of excerpts from interviews with students who attended the Fort Totten Indian Industrial School and its Grey Nuns Department, which later became the Little Flower Indian Mission School in nearby St. Michael. Their striking descriptions of life at a boarding school stretch over the life of the institution, from the 1890s to the 1950s.

Common themes emerge in the recollections. Every student describes how very different institutional life was from home. Almost every student mentions the homesickness that arose among children who might not see their families for months at a time; almost every child seems to have run away at least once.

The experiment, from 1935 to 1940, to determine if undernourished or tuberculosis-prone Indian children could be brought back to health with proper nutrition, sanitary conditions, hygiene, and rest is detailed in the next article, "Fort Totten's Indian School Preventorium: Fighting the Killer," by Carla Kelly, a former research historian for the SHSND. Kelly locates the preventorium program within a larger effort to improve public health conditions on the reservation, especially by providing health education to reservation mothers. In 1940 the preventorium was closed and Fort Totten became a combined boarding and day school until 1959, when a new community school was constructed and Fort Totten was given to the state of North Dakota.

A final article, "Fort Totten State Historic Site," by Mary Kate Ryan and Tom Linn, considers the buildings of the site and how those buildings add to the historical account of Fort Totten. The authors show how the buildings can be used to interpret history through preservation, adaptive reuse, and restoration. All these techniques are in use at Fort Totten and help to preserve and interpret the history of North Dakota. Linn is the SHSND's architectural project manager; Ryan was the agency's architectural historian from 2003 to 2008, and is now employed with the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources.

The book retails for \$9.95 and is available at the State Historical Society's Museum Stores, as well as online at www.history.nd.gov/museumstore or by contacting Museum Stores Manager Rhonda Brown at 701.328.2822 or email museumstore@nd.gov.



Book Receives National Honors

A recent book published by the State Historical Society of North Dakota has received a national award from the American Library Association (ALA). *Twilight of the Upper Missouri River Fur Trade: The Journals of Henry A. Boller* has been named to the ALA's Notable Documents List of the best state publications for 2009, one of only 12 nationwide winners. *Twilight of the Upper Missouri River Fur Trade* was edited by renowned Northern Plains scholar W. Raymond Wood. Boller lived as a fur trader on the Upper Missouri River from 1858 to 1861 and paints vivid portraits of the region's native people and those who dealt with and lived among them. The book is available at the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store, by contacting Museum Stores Manager Rhonda Brown at 701.328.2822 or order online at www.nd.gov/hist/MuseumStore.

Interns Gain Experience With SHSND

By Deborah K. Hellman

Eleven interns are participating in the State Historical Society's summer intern program, gaining valuable hands-on experience working with staff at the state's history agency in several areas. Since 1982 college interns have participated in the intern program which benefits both the students and the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

Geoffrey Woodcox is originally from Coldwater, Michigan and is working as the Fort Totten exhibit intern for the summer. He is preparing artifacts for a new exhibition that will be opening at Fort Totten in 2011. He graduated from Northern Michigan University in Marquette in December 2008 with a bachelor of science in photography and a minor in history. He now attends the Cooperstown graduate program in Cooperstown, New York pursuing a master of arts degree in history/museum studies.

Alicia Liebel is working in the agency's historic preservation division. A Watford City, North Dakota native, Liebel is a graduate of North Dakota State University with a biological sciences degree. She is a graduate student at the University of Minnesota School of Architecture. Liebel worked 27 months for the Peace Corps in Mauritania, West Africa, serving as an agro-forestry, gender, and development volunteer. She has also studied in Zanzibar, Africa, working with UNESCO to survey the public squares in Stone Town.

Originally from Poland and raised in Hawaii, **Beata "Rachel" Gruszka** completed her bachelor of arts degree in history and anthropology from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, in 2002. After finishing a master of arts degree in anthropology from the University of Michigan, she redirected her focus to museums, and is currently finishing a masters in museum science from Texas Tech University. Her work as an intern with the museum division at the North Dakota Heritage Center has ranged from working with objects in the State Historical Society's collections to assisting with exhibit installation projects at the Pembina State Museum and the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center.

Andrew Kerr is a graphic designer who has creative experience with photography, sculpture, drawing, painting, short films, and music. He has also been a percussionist for over a decade. Born in Williston, North Dakota, he graduated from Mandan High School in 2005 and pursued a degree in graphic design from Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM). In the fall of 2008, Kerr was selected among the top students of his class to design one of five books for New Rivers Press. He is working to complete his bachelor of fine arts (BFA) degree in graphic design from MSUM. He is working with the State Historical Society as a web design intern.

Lori Nohner is from Mandan, North Dakota, and graduated from Mandan High School in 2007. This fall, she will



Photograph by Deborah K. Hellman

Three of this summer's State Historical Society of North Dakota interns pose in front of the USS *North Dakota* battleship exhibit at the North Dakota Heritage Center. From left, Rachel Gruszka, Andrew Kerr, and Stacy Schaffer.

be a senior at the College of St. Benedict/ St. John's University in St. Joseph, Minnesota, where she is double majoring in history and Hispanic studies. After graduation next spring, Nohner plans to attend graduate school to pursue a master's in public history. In the fall of 2009, she studied abroad in Chile, where she took university classes and lived with a Chilean family. Her South American travels have also taken her to Argentina and Peru. Nohner is working as a digital project archivist this summer, traveling in-state and scanning images from local organizations to be uploaded to Digital Horizons.

Alyssa Boge was raised in the Madison, Wisconsin area. She graduated this spring from Beloit College with majors in anthropology and Russian and a museum studies minor. Boge enjoys throwing pottery, cooking, biking, reading, and traveling. She is a Dakota Datebook intern, assisting with the research and writing of this daily public radio feature of Prairie Public Broadcasting.

Tracy Popp is a graduate student at the University of Illinois in Champaign. She is working on a certificate of advanced studies in library and information science with an emphasis on archival studies and digital humanities. She holds a master's degree in library science from the University of Illinois. While there, she worked on a computer-based program designed to assist those who care for cultural heritage audiovisual materials. She also holds a BFA in photography from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Popp is working as a film and audiovisual intern in the state archives.

Stacy Schaffer grew up in Wishek, North Dakota. She recently graduated with a bachelors degree in social and behavioral sciences from the University of Mary in Bismarck. This fall, she will attend Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota to work on a master of arts degree in public administration. She is spending her internship conducting oral interviews

continued on page 19

New to the Collections

By Shane Molander and Emily Ergen

Some of the latest additions to the collections in the state archives at the North Dakota Heritage Center include:

- The **Garrison Dam Impact Study Interviews** consist of eight DVDs of interviews with people impacted by the construction of the Garrison Dam in the early 1950s. The study, "Valley of the Dammed: Garrison Dam History Project," was conducted by Tessa Sandstrom and Aaron Wentz in November 2006. Topics and places discussed include: Shell Creek, Van Hook, Sanish, Parshall, Plaza, Keene, Missouri River bottom lands, agriculture, New Town, Four Bears Bridge, rodeos, Elbowoods, and the Three Affiliated Tribes. Those interviewed were Marilyn Hudson, Bernice Houser, Bob Gorder, David Nelson, Doris Yri, Harley Steffen, Sharon Andes, and Rita Satermo.

- The **Hess Corporation Newspaper Clipping Collection** consists of 80 volumes of newspaper clippings from regional papers documenting the discovery and production of oil in North Dakota from 1951 to 1969. In 1969 the Hess Corporation merged with the Amerada Petroleum Corporation and is a leading global independent energy company that is active in the state.

- The **Natalie (Guss) Peterson Reminiscences** consist of 21 short stories describing life on the family farm near Wolford, North Dakota during the Great Depression. Guss was born in April 1921 and resided much of her adult life in Rugby.

- The **Bismarck Historic Preservation Association Records** consist of records of the organization, including articles of incorporation; grant material; notes; and material on the Cathedral District in Bismarck, the Washington Street Corridor, the Bismarck Centennial Committee (North Dakota Centennial); as well as zoning; the creation, by city ordinance, of a Historic Preservation Review Commission; and records relating to the National Register of Historic Places.

- In the **John D. Czapiewski**



SHSND MSS 11048.06

Third grade students sit in the classroom at Richholt School in Bismarck during the 1921-22 school year. Lynn Sperry's daughter, Mildred, is circled.

Operation Desert Shield Reminiscence, the North Dakota Army National Guardsman tells of an incident while serving in Saudi Arabia at a place called Half Moon Bay. There he found in a rubble pit a 1951 issue of the *National Geographic* magazine with a feature article on North Dakota. The magazine was delivered to the Governor's Office in April 2009, and transferred to the State Archives. His reminiscence was written in January-February 2010. The article, written by Leo A. Borah, is entitled "North Dakota Comes Into Its Own," and features 43 photographs, illustrations, and a map.

- The **Lynn Sperry Papers** consist of material relating to and owned by Lynn W. Sperry (1877-1969) but also contains several items belonging to his daughter Mildred (Moeller). A New York native, his father homesteaded in Burleigh County on the Missouri River bottoms near Bismarck in 1884. Organized chronologically, Sperry's papers include correspondence between family members, a diary, Sperry's financial ledger books, family genealogical research and notes, photographs, and newspapers. Sperry served in Bismarck's First Regiment, Company A of the North Dakota National Guard and fought as a sergeant in the Spanish-American War in 1898-99. He served in the North Dakota Legislative Assembly as a state senator and a state representative for five sessions beginning in



SHSND MSS 10202.01

A baby contest was among the activities at the 18th annual meeting of the North Dakota Federation of Women's Clubs outside the Elks Lodge in Minot, October 13, 1915.

1921, as well as a special session in 1928. While serving in the legislature, Sperry introduced enabling legislation creating junior (now community) colleges in the state, including then-Bismarck Junior College, which opened in 1939. Sperry also served 15 years on the Burleigh County Draft Board, and was chairman in 1948.

• **The North Dakota Federation of Women's Clubs**

(NDFWC) records consist of records of the state office, district offices, and affiliated clubs. They hold a wide variety of material, including minutes, subject files, biographies, North Dakota state golden jubilee club histories, constitutions and by-laws, annual reports, financial records, Pioneer Daughters club records, newspaper clippings, photographs, yearbooks, and scrapbooks. The NDFWC was organized at the Devils Lake Chautauqua in July 1897. Its purpose was to "bring the women of the State into communication for acquaintance, mutual helpfulness, and the promotion of higher intellectual, social and moral conditions," with membership open to "all clubs organized for literary, artistic, musical, philanthropic, scientific, or other educational purposes, who owe allegiance to no political or sectarian control." Since its launch, the NDFWC has been involved in many projects, including establishment of the state's pure food laws and gath-

SHSND MSS 10202.02



This tree-planting in 1932 on the state capitol grounds in Bismarck was in honor of North Dakota pioneer aviator Carl Ben Eielson (1897-1929), who was killed in a plane crash while attempting to rescue passengers in a cargo vessel trapped in ice in the Bering Strait. The planting was done by the North Dakota Federation of Women's Clubs. State president Blanche Durell Jones of Lisbon, North Dakota is at center; the other two women are unidentified.



SHSND MSS 11048.08

Students attending McKenzie School in Burleigh County, North Dakota stand in front of their schoolhouse in this 1895 pose.

ering data for the Pioneer Mother Project, a collection of biographical sketches of early female settlers in Dakota Territory. The clubs maintain libraries and museums, and purchased the first bookmobile in North Dakota. They also led a campaign to erect the statue of Sakakawea on the state capitol grounds in 1910 and partnered with the State Historical Society of North Dakota to fund the creation of a statue replica to place in Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol in Washington D.C. in 2003 during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. The organization currently has 1,852 members in 94 general clubs and one junior club.

For a complete list of manuscripts and other collections preserved in the state archives, visit the agency's website at www.history.nd.gov and click on "Archives."

Interns *continued from page 17*

with staff and others associated with the Former Governors' Mansion in Bismarck during the time it served as office space for the North Dakota Department of Health from 1960 to 1975.

Joel Drevlow is a senior at Minnesota State University Moorhead. A Bismarck native, he is majoring in history and East Asian Studies with minors in Chinese and teaching English as a second language. Drevlow is assisting in arranging, conducting, transcribing, and indexing oral history interviews being done at the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site near Cooperstown. He is also working on a variety

of projects at other state historic sites, including conducting historic site interpretation, preservation, and conservation.

Kelly Owens is a graduate student at Southeast Missouri State University (SMSU) with a bachelor's degree in historic preservation from SMSU. An Arizona native, she is a member of SMSU's Historic Preservation Association and is president of the historic preservation honor society, Sigma Pi Kappa. Her internship at the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site in Medora includes community research, distribution of promotional materi-

als, working at the theater box office, helping with site interpretation, and conducting oral histories.

Rachel Trythall will be a junior this fall at North Dakota State University, where she is majoring in elementary education and child development. This Bismarck native received a Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership award as a high school sophomore and has been a volunteer for such activities as Habitat for Humanity and the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. She is a Reading Room assistant, working with SHSND reference staff to help researchers in the Reading Room of the State Archives.

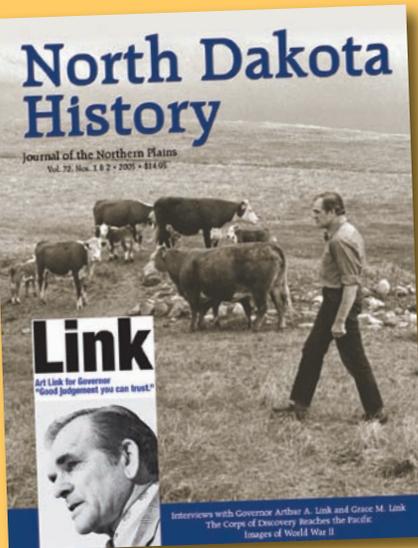


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SOCIETY NEWS



Former Governor Arthur Link, who died June 1 at 96, was a dedicated advocate of the need to preserve, promote and interpret the state's history and heritage. His work included, as governor, securing state funding to build the North Dakota Heritage Center – “the people's place,” as he called it – spearheading its construction and grand opening in 1981; signing legislation in 1975 that preserved the Former Governors' Mansion, which housed 20 governors, as a state

historic site; and, as a former governor, serving as chairman of the North Dakota Centennial Commission for the 100th anniversary of statehood in 1989. An accomplished fiddle player, for many years Link played at the annual August program held at the site. To honor that contribution, in 2008 the State Historical Society and the Society for the Preservation of the Former Governors' Mansion launched the annual Arthur A. Link Fiddling Contest where violin students from grades one to 12 compete for cash scholarships. The life stories of Link and his wife, Grace, were told in this issue of *North Dakota History* released in 2006 as part of the State Historical Society's journal series featuring the oral histories of recent governors.

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