



Plains Talk

North Dakota Heritage Center

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Construction Work on \$52 Million Expansion Begins

By Claudia Berg and Rick Collin

On the eve of the 30th anniversary of the opening of the North Dakota Heritage Center, construction is underway on the expansion project that will nearly double the size of the current facility with the addition of 97,000 square feet.

Located on the state capitol grounds, the Heritage Center, which houses the state museum and state archives, opened May 30, 1981. It is also the headquarters of the state's history agency, the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND).

"We are delighted to be at this stage in the project, and want to again thank everyone who has helped to make this dream a reality," said SHSND Director Merl Paaverud. "We want to emphasize that throughout the entire course of the expansion construction these next two years, the North Dakota Heritage Center will remain open on a daily basis for visitors and facility users."

The three prime contractors on the \$52 million expansion project began their work in March. They are Comstock Construction Inc. and Scott's Electric Inc., both headquartered in Wahpeton, North Dakota; and Central Mechanical Inc. of Mandan. One of their first big projects is the modification of a corner of the main gallery and the auditorium gallery to prepare for structural work as the weather improves. SHSND staff removed exhibits and artifacts from the *Bright Dreams and Hard Times* exhibit in the main gallery and the *Creating Sakakawea* exhibit in the

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This goat, a model of the Nonpartisan League (NPL) mascot, was among the exhibit items removed for expansion work. A political movement launched in North Dakota in 1915, the NPL advocated state control of banks, grain elevators, mills, and other farm-related industries to reduce the power of corporate interests outside the state. Its mascot was referred to as "The Goat That Can't Be Got." Working are SHSND Preparator Bryan Turnbow, in the lift, and assistants Ben Turnbow (l) and Joe Miller. At right, SHSND Collections Assistant Melissa Thompson works on marionettes removed from the exhibit *Bright Dreams and Hard Times* in the Heritage Center's main gallery, in preparation for the expansion. These puppets were in the play, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, that toured the state in the 1930s as part of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) Experimental Theater, and were made by WPA workers.

Photograph by Brian R. Austin, SHSND

Photograph by Claudia Berg, SHSND

Reception Honors Donors

Five major gifts to the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion project were recognized at a January 6 legislative reception. The donors are:

- **Forum Communications, Fargo, and Bill Marcil, Sr.,** \$250,000, one of the first major donors prior to the 2009 Legislative Assembly.
- **Ruth Hartman, Ellensburg, Washington,** is a Wilton, North Dakota area native whose family immigrated from Sweden. Her \$125,000 gift was the

The North Dakota Heritage Center legislative reception was sponsored by the State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation and the Independent Community Banks of North Dakota.

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Photograph by Brian R. Austin, SHSND

Expansion Begins

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auditorium gallery in preparation for the construction work, which began March 21.

Construction will take about two years, continuing into early 2013. The new exhibit galleries will then open over the following two-year period, with completion scheduled for North Dakota's 125th anniversary of statehood on November 2, 2014.

The 2009 Legislative Assembly authorized \$51.7 million for the expansion of the exhibits and collections spaces of the North Dakota Heritage Center. Of this, \$39.7 million in state funds was appropriated. The remaining funds are being raised by the SHSND Foundation.

Said SHSND Foundation Director Virginia Nelsen: "We are so grateful for the strong support this project has received over the years. It will have regional, national, and international significance."

The expansion is under the direction of the architectural firms of Hammel, Green and Abrahamson (HGA) Architects and Engineers of Minneapolis, and Lightowler Johnson Associates of Fargo.

For more information about the expansion project, visit the State Historical Society of North Dakota's website at www.history.nd.gov or the State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation's website at www.statehistoricalfoundation.com.

Reception Honors Donors

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first major gift to a proposed expansion in the late 1990s.

- **Frank and JoAndrea Larson, Valley City, \$100,000.** Their son, Craig Larson, CEO of Starion Financial, spoke at the reception about his family's love for history.

- **Barbara McCormick, Devils Lake, \$100,000.** Her gifts to her community include donations to the Pioneer Daughters, Lake Region Heritage Center, and the Totten Trail Historic Inn.

- **North Dakota Farmers Union, Robert Carlson, president,** one of the first major expansion donors with a \$100,000 gift.

Baker Receives 2010 Staff Award

Photograph by Brian R. Austin, SHSND



Gene Baker, the SHSND's outstanding employee for 2010

Gene Baker was awarded the 2010 Staff Award for Excellence at the agency's annual holiday gathering, an honor given each year to a State Historical Society employee selected by his or her colleagues as the agency's outstanding staff member.

Baker is the microfilm specialist for the SHSND's State Archives Division.

He began employment with the agency as its microfilm specialist April 1, 2004. Baker has spent more than 35 years in the microfilm service industry, servicing nearly every major brand of microfilm equipment, including equipment used at the SHSND. Before coming to work at the state's history agency, he had retired from Datrue, Inc. of Mandan.

Other staff members were honored for years of state government service in North Dakota:

- **20 Years:** Mark Halvorson, curator of collections research
Naomi Frantes, library cataloger
- **15 Years:** Rick Collin, communications and education director
- **10 Years:** Deborah Hellman, communications assistant
Sharon Silengo, photo archivist
- **5 Years:** Susan Quinnell, review and compliance coordinator
Lisa Steckler, historic preservation specialist
- **3 Years:** Amy Bleier, research archaeologist
Kerry Finsaas, Fort Buford assistant site supervisor
Ann Jenks, state archivist
Mark Sundlov, Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile site supervisor
Melissa Thompson, collections assistant

Transitions

Wendi Field Murray began work March 1 as collections manager/archaeologist. She has worked as a seasonal archaeologist at the Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona, as a field assistant at the Public Archaeology Laboratory Inc. in Rhode Island, and as a museum administrator at the Robbins Museum of Archaeology in Massachusetts. She earned a master of arts degree in anthropology from the University of Arizona, and as a doctoral candidate in the university's School of Anthropology has spent the last four years conducting research on the Northern Plains, emphasizing collaboration with American Indian tribes. She earned a bachelor of science degree in anthropology from Bridgewater State College in Massachusetts and a bachelor of arts degree in sociology from Saint Anselm College in New Hampshire.

Jason Wentz began work January 1 as a security officer at the North Dakota Heritage Center. A native of Bismarck, his previous employment includes working as a deputy for the Burleigh County Sheriff's Department, an officer with the Mandan Police Department, and as a narcotics agent with the Northwest Narcotics Task Force in Williston. He earned an associate's degree in criminal justice from Bismarck State College and a certificate in peace officer training from Lake Region State College. He has also taken several courses at Minot State University, concentrating on a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice.

EXPANDING THE OUTREACH

Significant Steps Forward

Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr., Director



• The State Historical Society of North Dakota enjoyed another outstanding year in Fiscal Year (FY) 2010. During the year the agency took significant steps forward with improved services as it works to identify, preserve, interpret, and promote the heritage of the people of North Dakota. We are fortunate to have very talented staff who take great pride in their work and the results of their efforts. They work hard to collect, preserve, and share information, images, artifacts, and stories about those who live or have lived in North Dakota.

• Planning and preparation continue to be important activities as the Society prepares for the expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center. The completed Heritage Center will continue the tradition set by the original building, which was designed for efficient use while providing architecture that is “timeless” in its design. We are fortunate to have a dedicated Foundation staff who works to promote the Society and gather resources for our projects. Our partnership with the North Dakota Geological Survey has also been a great benefit for both agencies.

• The Communications and Education Division staff, working closely with the other divisions, spearheaded another successful Governor’s Conference on North Dakota History. The conference highlighted the impact of public education on the state from 1870 to 1950 and also launched a project to survey and record potential historic country school sites throughout the state. A favorite feature of this conference is the presentation of our history awards to individuals and groups who have done outstanding work on the local and state level. This is an opportunity to recognize the great work that is being done statewide to fulfill the history mission for North Dakota.

• The Society opened its newest historic site in July 2009. The Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site near Cooperstown preserves and interprets the story of the Minuteman missile system and those who worked in and lived around the sites. Among the visitors have been former missileers who were stationed at this and similar sites around the world.

• The Archaeology and Historic Preservation Division, in cooperation with the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Department at Bismarck State College, developed a partnership to produce 3D modeling of archaeological sites. This gives students



Hammel, Green and Abrahamson (HGA), Inc.

The North Dakota Heritage Center expansion is shown in this drawing facing toward State Street on the state capitol grounds in Bismarck. The Northern Lights Atrium, the main entrance from the east, will welcome guests as they enter the 97,000-square-foot addition, easily seen and accessed from the busy adjacent highway.

a chance to gain practical experience for utilizing their knowledge of GIS to create models that could be incorporated into the new Early Peoples Gallery in the expanded North Dakota Heritage Center.

• A major project for the Museum Division was restoration of the 1909 Northern Pacific locomotive, on display at Camp Hancock State Historic Site. The locomotive was restored to its 1940s appearance and is now an object of renewed interest and beauty, drawing people to the site as they visit downtown Bismarck.

• The State Archives has taken great strides in digitizing the collections, including photographs, maps, and audiovisual materials, many of which are now online at Digital Horizons. Purchase of an Informational Technology Department server allowed the storage of files in one place that is accessible to all agency staff. A preview computer was installed in the Archives Reading Room for the public, providing access to 51,000 images. Digital Horizons provides access to the North Dakota *Blue Books*; nearly 2,000 images, documents, film clips, and oral histories from 18 local historical societies, museums, and libraries; and more than 6,000 State Archives images.

• These are but a few of the accomplishments that the State Historical Society staff have made possible. You will be able to read more about them in the following report. North Dakota has a wonderful history and we are proud to be able to collect and share the information. I extend my appreciation to all for the interest and support we received throughout the year.

Continuing Expansion and Growth

Continuing growth and outreach were again the watchwords in Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 as the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) continued moving forward with the expansion project for the **North Dakota Heritage Center**, headquarters of the SHSND. A historic \$51.7 million expansion of the state museum's exhibits and collections spaces was approved by the 61st Legislative Assembly in its final hours. The May 2, 2009 vote was 71-19 in the House and 45-1 in the Senate. House Bill 1481 appropriated \$39.7 million in state funds, with an additional \$12 million to come from private and other sources. The legislation requires that at least \$6 million of the private and other funds be pledged before groundbreaking and construction on this second phase of expansion can begin, a goal that was achieved in the summer of 2010.

"In 2014 we will be celebrating our 125th anniversary of

statehood," said SHSND Director Merl Paaverud. "That will be the perfect time to showcase an extraordinary state museum that reflects our rich heritage and history, not only for us, but also for our children and for generations to come. It will be a wonderful gift to the people of our state."

In 2007 the North Dakota Legislature appropriated \$1.5 million for conceptual designs for the 97,000-square-foot Phase II expansion approved two years later. The Phase II project also includes renovation of existing portions of the Heritage Center. In the Phase I expansion and other efforts, more than \$21 million in investments were secured from state, federal, and private sources to enhance regional state historic sites, the most recent being the **Fort Abercrombie Interpretive Center** near Fargo and Wahpeton, and the **Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center** in Medora. A strong cultural heritage grant program was also

approved by the Legislative Assembly.

A \$5.7 million expansion of the **State Archives** was funded mostly through a bond approved by the 2005 Legislative Assembly. Completion of the 30,000-square-foot archives addition was celebrated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony November 2, 2007.

The Phase II design concepts have been detailed by the architectural firm of HGA Architects and Engineers of Minneapolis, in partnership with Lightowler Johnson Associates of Fargo. For more on the expansion project, visit the SHSND's website at www.history.nd.gov.

The SHSND manages 55 state historic sites and two state museums, operating as North Dakota's department of history, archaeology, and archives since 1895. The agency has 62 full-time employees and some 200 volunteers working in its five divisions statewide. The divisions are Museum, Communications and Education, Archaeology and Historic Preservation, State Archives, and Support Services.



Photographs by SHSND Foundation

The energy industry has been a major supporter of the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion project. Above, donors and supporters pose after a December 14, 2009 news conference announcing a \$1.3 million donation by the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives. (l to r) Jon McMillan, president, SHSND Foundation Board; Marlo Sveen, SHSND Foundation development director; Virginia Nelsen, SHSND Foundation executive director; Wally Beyer, SHSND Foundation Board vice president; Ron Harper, general manager and CEO of Basin Electric Power Cooperative; Al Christianson, manager of business development and North Dakota governmental affairs for Great River Energy; Dennis Hill, vice president and general manager of North Dakota's Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives; and Governor John Hoeven. Oklahoma-based Continental Resources, Inc., donated \$1.8 million for the expansion project. At right, chairman and CEO Harold Hamm speaks at a luncheon following the January 22, 2010 news conference announcing their gift.



Site Developments

Fort Buford State Historic Site, which includes the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, drew nearly 13,000 visitors during FY2010. The sites hosted many free events, including concerts, living history demonstrations, children's activities, nature-based activities, book discussions, quilting activities, an Easter Egg Hunt, Christmas at the Confluence, and more. During the paddlefishing opener in early May 2009, the Confluence Center hosted Fred Ryckman with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, who talked with visitors about the paddlefish and its natural environment.

The Fort Buford Sixth Infantry Regiment Association held its 28th annual encampment August 15-16, 2009. In association with the event, the First Annual Dutch Oven cook-off was held, with prizes and ingredients donated by local businesses.

The popular *Cemetery Walk* was held at the Fort Buford Cemetery October 24, 2009, with several "ghosts" telling their histories to visitors.

The Confluence Quilters hosted Jewel Wolk of Cut Bank, Montana, at their annual display of quilts November 21, 2009. Volk had done a story quilt called *Women and War* and interviewed women about their stories and contributions during World War II. Her story quilts have been displayed nationwide, including at Stanford University in California, Aurora College in Colorado, and the Museum of the Rockies in Montana. Her talk was attended by quilters from the Badlands Quilt Guild and 10 other quilt guilds from eastern Montana and western North Dakota.

At **Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site**, the new interpretive center, which opened in May 2008, drew 6,633 visitors during FY2010. Programs were designed to showcase the history of the fort and the frontier military life. Local quilters met at the site monthly to work on a group project. A children's reading group met weekly during the summer. The local community celebration known as *Aber*



Photograph by Brianna Bohmbach, SHSND

Children gather around a sand mandala that Tibetan monk Ven Ngawang Chojor of the Tibetan Children's Education Foundation created with another monk at the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center near Williston during their visit August 26-30, 2009. The sand mandala is formed from a traditionally prescribed iconography that includes geometric shapes and a multitude of ancient spiritual symbols, and used as a tool for reconsecrating Earth and its inhabitants. A sand mandala consists of millions of grains of colored sand painstakingly placed over a period of days or weeks.

Days took place in September 2009. Fort Abercrombie supported the event by hosting special demonstrations on the fort grounds. Local Boy Scout troops also participated in a weekend campout and Dutch oven cooking contest during the celebration. The Red River continues to erode the site, and more ground has slumped into the river on the east and north side of the fort grounds. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers conducted core drilling at the site in the fall of 2009. The results will help the Corps design a stabilization plan for the bank of the Red River. The blockhouse situated on the northeast corner of the site was moved to the southeast corner of the site during the fall of 2009 to move it farther away from the riverbank.



Photograph by Diane Rogness, SHSND

Photograph by Cheryl Stein

Events celebrating the Yellowstone Masonic Lodge Historic Site near Fort Buford occurred May 21-23, 2010. Its charter was issued in 1871 as 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 **Whitestone Hill Battlefield State Historic Site** hosted its Ninth Annual Education Day for area school groups September 4, 2009, marking the 146th anniversary of the last major battle between soldiers and American Indians east of the Missouri River. Some 180 students from 12 area schools participated in making pemmican, scraping a deer hide, learning about the Dakota people and the frontier military lifestyle of the 1800s, and looking at artifacts found near the site. The site drew 3,231 visitors during FY2010. A fire November 9, 2009, attributed to arson, destroyed the museum building. Also destroyed or severely damaged were 20 objects that had been on exhibit, including two Civil War-era muskets and American Indian tools and weapons. The building was constructed during the late 1930s and completed in 1941 by the Works Progress Administration. Plans are underway to restore the building to its original appearance, with a targeted completion date of 2011. The State Historical Society received a grant from the American Battlefield Protection Program to conduct an archaeological survey of the site and write a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The survey work was completed by the end of June 2010 and work continues on the nomination.

More than 5,500 visitors came to **Fort Clark Trading Post State Historic Site** near Washburn during the year. Long-time site supervisor Dennis Becker resigned in June 2010 to pursue other opportunities. He was replaced by Aaron Young, a nearby neighbor to the site.

Major renovation work continued at **Fort Totten State**

Historic Site, including beginning installation of a new visitors' center and gift shop, with a targeted completion date of Spring 2011, in time for the seasonal sites opening in May. The outside painting of several buildings was completed. The north end of Building #2, the captain's and first lieutenant's quarters, was completely refurbished as well. The Totten Trail Historic Inn continued as a popular tourist destination, with visitors 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.

Camp Hancock State Historic Site

in downtown Bismarck continued to see improvements throughout the year. Work was concentrated on construction of a shelter and restoration of the 1909 Northern Pacific Railway locomotive displayed at the site since 1955. Architectural designs for the shelter were completed with funding from the 2009 Legislative Assembly. When Transportation Enhancement funds provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act became available, the project was shovel-ready. This federal stimulus money totaled \$209,000, and the remaining \$26,000 was provided by state funding.

It was another busy year at the **Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site** in Bismarck. Two events that debuted in FY2008 were again popular this year: the Third Annual Crafters Bee and Social and the Third Annual Governor Arthur A. Link Fiddle Contest. Restoration of the attic was begun in the fall of 2009 with updated wiring and continued into 2010 with the insulating of the attic space. The goal is to have the attic publicly accessible by the spring of 2011, restored to what it looked like in the 1930s when it was a children's playroom. Programming featured popular and educational events, including the Annual Lawn Party in August, a children's concert in September by the Bismarck rock group, Blind Mice, two Halloween Teas, and the popular Holiday Open House. For the first time the mansion was open daily, including weekday mornings. A major highlight was the work of intern Stacy Schaffer, a recent University of Mary graduate, who interviewed people who worked at the mansion from



Photograph by Rita Ackley, SHSND

Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site near Fargo was the location of this flag retirement ceremony during Flag Day June 14, 2010. This is one of five flags that were retired by members of the Fort Abercrombie garrison reenactment unit at the site, which served as a gateway to the Dakota frontier from 1858 until its closing in 1877.



Photograph by Delores Linn, SHSND

Site Supervisor Jim Acker gives a tour of the Fort Abercrombie Interpretive Center in September 2009.

1960 through the early 1970s when it was used as office space by the North Dakota Department of Health. The mansion also celebrated the 125th anniversary of its 1884 construction by Bismarck businessman Asa Fisher.

Several repairs were done at the **Pembina State Museum**, including work on the heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) system and the observation tower heating system. A power outage in November 2009 resulted in damage to the HVAC system and elevator. Museum staff hosted a program and book signing October 10, 2009 by Iowa native Dennis Weidemann, author of *This Water Goes North*.

The book chronicles his and three friends' 1,400-mile canoe journey – roughly following an old voyageur trail – starting at the headwaters of the Ottetail River in Minnesota, following the entire length of the Red River, and traversing Lake Winnipeg before culminating at historic York Factory on the shores of Hudson Bay. Museum staff also hosted several other events, including the annual Memorial Day, Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween Fun Day, and Holiday Open House programs. Visitation for FY2010 was 4,834. At the nearby **Gingras Trading Post State Historic Site**, the new boundaries marking the expanded site were determined, and all that remains to complete the 12-acre land transfer are a few closing procedures. Repairs and improvements to the buildings were discussed; these include painting the Gingras House, replacing some rotting windows, and deciding upon a course of action to halt beetle damage to some logs in the trading post building. The museum store, located in the trading post building, was expanded, and the number of items for sale nearly doubled. Six outdoor interpretive panels were completed and installed on the grounds of the



Photograph by Jessie Remke, SHSND

Reenactor Kerwin Lund demonstrates blacksmithing at the 17th Annual Living History Field Day September 14, 2009 at Fort Totten State Historic Site near Devils Lake. Each year, the event attracts more than 600 area seventh and eighth grade students, who learn about frontier military activities, boarding school trades, and American Indian culture.

site, and plans were initiated to update interpretive panels in the Gingras House. The site hosted its popular annual *Gingras Day!* event in July 2009.

At the **Chateau de Mores State Historic Site**, programming continued year-round for the second year, given the site's new hours since the opening of its \$2 million interpretive center in April 2008. The center drew 21,852 visitors in FY2010. The Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween programming, and a Winter Fun Day in January were again among the featured annual events. Site Supervisor Delores Linn worked toward completion of the Chateau de Mores Interpretive

Center and De Mores Park sprinkler system and landscaping projects. Assistant Site Supervisor Ed Sahlstrom and *Footsteps into Medora* Coordinator Karen Nelson worked on new scripting and rehearsals for the new *Living History Tour* actors. The twice-weekly summer tours through Medora is a collaborative project between the State Historical Society of North Dakota, Dickinson State University, Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation, and the Billings County Historical Society and Museum. A DVD was completed about the Chateau site and its history, produced by the State Historical Society's multi-media technology specialist Michael Frohlich and narrated by Sahlstrom. It is being used as an introduction for visitors at the interpretive center, and is also available on the agency's website at www.history.nd.gov.

At the **Killdeer Mountain Battlefield State Historic**

Site, the Eighth Annual Killdeer Mountain History Hike was held July 25, 2009, led by Museum Division Director Chris Johnson, who discussed events surrounding the battle that took place July 28, 1864 between the U.S. Army, led by Brigadier General Alfred Sully, and Teton, Yanktonai, and Dakota (Sioux) Indians.



Photograph by Jessie Remke, SHSND

Hoop dancer Kevin Locke of the Standing Rock Sioux Nation works with students at the 17th Annual Living History Field Day at Fort Totten.

Cold War Site Draws Visitors Worldwide

The State Historical Society of North Dakota's newest state historic site opened its doors to visitors July 13, 2009. On the front lines of the Cold War, the **Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site** near Cooperstown preserves and interprets the story of the Minuteman missile system and the people working in and living around the missile sites. The site consists of the Oscar-Zero Missile Alert Facility and the nearby November-33 Launch Facility. Visitors to Oscar-Zero are given a guided tour of the topside facilities and can go 60 feet underground to visit the launch control center; November-33 is the actual launch facility site and features interpretive panels for visitors. Among the visitors were many former Air Force personnel who served at the site and a Russian Cold War veteran from the former Soviet Union.

The site is named after Reagan as a result of legislation approved by the 2007 Legislative Assembly to honor the 40th President's role in ending the Cold War.

Other highlights during FY2010:

- Historic restoration continued at both Oscar-Zero and November-33 throughout the year; this included the purchase and installation of historically accurate objects, as well as the physical restoration of some of the site's mechanical systems.
- The site developed and implemented an on going oral history project titled, "Memories of the Missile Field: Oral Histories of Life in the Grand Forks Missile Field." This project captures the stories of people who were directly related to the construction or operation of the missile field facilities.
- The State Historical Society produced an orientation video that is shown to visitors upon their arrival. The 22-minute *America's 'Ace in the Hole': The Cold War in North Dakota* received the Mountain-Plains Museums Association's 2010 Technology Award.
- The site opened its gift shop. With books, clothing, souvenirs, educational games, and toys, the store meets guests' demands for a shopping experience while also supporting the mission of the site.
- The site established a formal partnership agreement with a local support group, the Friends of Oscar-Zero.
- The site also developed a close working relationship with the Griggs County Museum, geared towards assisting that museum in its development of a Northern Plains Cold War Interpretive Center in Cooperstown. The Center will complement the educational efforts of the state historic site.
- Highway signs that combine the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site and the Griggs County Museum and Northern Plains Cold War Interpretive Center were installed at the junction of Highways 45 and 200 near Cooperstown, North Dakota.
- The site, in cooperation with the Friends of Oscar-Zero, initiated a Cold War Film Contest and invited filmmakers to the site to conduct on-site filming.
- The development of a Cold War library at the site began. The library currently contains 85 volumes on Cold War history, many of which pertain directly to the site.
- The new site's supervisor is Mark Sundlov, a former missile officer at Minot Air Force Base and graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, who managed the Fort Buford/Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center site before beginning his new duties June 1, 2009.



A ribbon-cutting ceremony included State Historical Board members and other site supporters when the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site officially opened July 31, 2009. The site was awarded the North Dakota Governor's Award as the 2010 Tourist Attraction of the Year. Ready to cut the ribbon are, from left, Secretary of State and State Historical Board member Al Jaeger, North Dakota Tourism Director Sara Otte Coleman, State Historical Board members Art Todd, Diane Larson and Albert Berger, Representative Ben Vig (D-Aneta), and State Historical Board President Chester E. Nelson, Jr.



Photograph by Johnathan Campbell, SHSND



The band Blind Mice entertains the crowd at the *Family Fun Night* September 10, 2009 at the Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site. A part-time rock-and-roll band that tears up stages during the summer months, Blind Mice touts itself as Bismarck's only band featuring two professors, an attorney, and a student in elementary school.



Photograph by Johnathan Campbell, SHSND

The 2009 Holiday Open House at the Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site featured Bismarck pianist Albert Landsberger playing the Steinway in the front parlor.

Left, the opening of the State Historical Society's newest site in the summer of 2009 attracted international media attention. That included these two Russian television crew members from Moscow, seen here August 22, 2009 visiting the November-33 Launch Facility, located about six miles from the Oscar-Zero Missile Alert Facility. The two facilities comprise the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site near Cooperstown, North Dakota. More than 4,000 people from all 50 states and 14 other nations toured the site in its first three months of operation.

Reaccreditation Renewed

In March 2010 the North Dakota Heritage Center was again 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 Historical 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."

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.



Photograph by Deborah K. Hellman, SHSND

The North Dakota Heritage Center's reaccreditation is good for 15 years, with the next AAM accreditation review scheduled for 2023.

Collections and Exhibits

Highlights included 32 loan agreements to other museums. Artifact loans reached 21 North Dakota communities. The Newseum in Washington, D.C., has objects on loan from the State Historical Society related to newspaper reporter Mark Kellogg, who was killed at the June 25, 1876 Battle of the Little Bighorn. The objects include his satchel, eyeglasses, and pencil. The Newseum also exhibited these Society objects from 1997 to 2001. Also part of the Society's collections, but not on loan, is the diary he kept on the campaign, recording the progress of Custer's column from Fort Lincoln beginning May 17 to June 9, 1876. Stories over the years have claimed that the diary was found stained with blood next to Kellogg's body on the battlefield. In an effort to determine the source of the stains, in 1995 the State Historical Society submitted the diary for testing to the Forensic Science Division of the North Dakota Department of Health. Results proved conclusively that the stains were not blood, but some other liquid, such as coffee, wine, or whiskey, or from some other source, such as muddy water. The results were reported in the Winter 1996 issue of *North Dakota History*, Vol. 63.1 in the article, "The Bloodstain Myth of Mark Kellogg's Notebook," co-authored by then-State Archivist Gerald Newborg and Communications Director Rick Collin. The diary is available on the Society's website under Digital Horizons; then in the search engine, type Mark Kellogg diary. Once the diary is accessed, a complete transcript is available by clicking on Document Description and Go.

A total of 117 collections were donated totally or in part to the Society, and 212 potential acquisitions were offered



Photograph by Diane Rogness, SHSND

This stagecoach, operated by Chip Turrittin of St. Peter, Minnesota, was a popular draw near the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center throughout the summer. The driver told the story of the Medora-Deadwood Overland Stage Line, which ran from 1884 to 1886.

to the agency. There were 272 visitors who viewed various aspects of the museum collections that are in storage, with 187 from North Dakota residents and 85 out-of-state residents. A total of 1,621 objects were catalogued into the collections during the year.

Permanent exhibits installed at state historic sites included *America's 'Ace in the Hole': North Dakota and the Cold War* at the **Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site** in Spring 2010. Planning got underway to develop a new exhibit at **Fort Totten State Historic Site**. Taylor Studios Inc. of Rantoul, Illinois was hired to assist SHSND staff with the development of a 10-year master plan for site exhibits and interpretation, including plans for a new orientation exhibit at the site's interpretive center. The exhibits are scheduled to be ready in time for the site's visitors season opening May 16, 2011.

Temporary exhibits at the **North Dakota Heritage Center** included *How Does Your Garden Grow? Gardening in North Dakota*, which opened November 20, 2009 in the James E. Sperry Gallery, replacing *The Atomic Age Arrives: The Cold War in North Dakota*. The exhibit examines common garden issues of planting, pests, harvest, and food preservation and how people have coped with these issues over the centuries. It was funded in part by a grant from the North Dakota Humanities Council. Barbara Handy-Marchello, a University of North Dakota associate professor emerita, conducted the primary research, which was

Site Supervisor Jeff Blanchard (left) leads a group tour at Gingras Trading Post State Historic Site in September 2009. Participants in the tour are Chateau de Mores State Historic Site staff members Maggie Obrigewitch, Janice Sears, Carole Smolnikar, Jane Cook, and Coleen Hanes, who toured historic sites statewide in order to be more informed and better able to help Chateau visitors who have questions about other sites in North Dakota.



Photograph by Delores Linn, SHSND

used for the exhibit text as well as website components and an article in the Society's quarterly journal, *North Dakota History*. In January 2010, museum division staff assisted staff from the North Dakota Geological Survey with reinstalling *Dakota: A Mummified Dinosaur* after its return from Chiba, Japan, a suburb of Tokyo, where it had been on display as part of a summer-long international fossil exhibition, *Reviving the Dinosaurs Expo 2009*. A *Considered View: The Photographs of Wayne Gudmundson* opened

February 3, 2010 in the Auditorium Gallery. The exhibit offers a glimpse of his more than 35 years of photographic perspectives of the Upper Midwest. A small exhibit in honor of the *North Dakota History* issue featuring former Governor George Sinner and First Lady Jane Sinner displayed clothing they have donated to the State Historical Society of North Dakota collections. Included in the April 2010 exhibit was the suit Sinner wore when he delivered his inaugural address to a joint session of the Legislature

State Archives

- Reference requests and website visits to the State Archives continued at similar levels as recent years, with some reduction in on-site visitors and an increase in email and interlibrary loan requests. Nearly 11,000 researchers were served directly through the Reading Room, mail and email, telephone requests, and interlibrary loans. Two hundred new rolls of microfilm were produced and more than 100 orders for microfilm purchase were completed. Web access continued to increase as additional information on archival holdings was added and updated.
- More than 13,400 photographs, maps, manuscripts, and books were placed in archival sleeves, encapsulated in mylar, or placed in special acid-free containers for improved protection and access.
- Rachel Trythall was the Kermit Karns intern, assisting Reading Room researchers. Intern Alyssa Boge researched and wrote a series of "Week at the Museum" scripts highlighting unusual artifacts in the Society's museum collections, as well as other stories for the popular daily Prairie Public Radio feature, *Dakota Datebook*. Audio visual intern Tracy Popp inventoried and digitized footage from the KXJB Television news film collection. Her final report summarized the methodology, findings, and recommendations from a preservation needs assessment and content survey of materials from the KXJB collection.
- Retired Deputy State Archivist Lotte Bailey returned part time to improve access to state government records and oversized documents. Former Shemorry project archivist Emily Ergen was hired as archives specialist in a new position approved by the Legislative Assembly to process manuscript collections. Archivist Emeritus Gerald Newborg worked part time in cooperation with Prairie Public Television to prioritize digitization and preservation of moving image collections.
- For the second summer a grant project funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission allowed Digital Project Archivists Alyssa Gerszewski and Lori Nohner to travel statewide selecting, researching, and scanning 100 images from each of 10 local historical organizations for upload to Dakota Mosaic, an online scrapbook. Dakota Mosaic is a sub-collection of Digital Horizons. Head of Technical Services Rachel White trained the interns and checked images and metadata before they were uploaded to Digital Horizons.
- Nearly 2,000 images were uploaded to Digital Horizons by Head of Technical Services Rachel White, Librarian/Cataloger Naomi Frantes, Digital Project Archivist Alyssa Gerszewski, Archives Specialist Emily Ergen, and William E. "Bill" Shemorry Project Archivist Amy Bellefeuille, in cooperation with the Williston State College Foundation.
- A second computer for searching the Vital Records database was added in the Reading Room. A second photograph preview computer was added, allowing the public to view all of the scanned photos in the collection for the first time.
- More than 2,300 publications were added to the cataloged holdings during the year. Librarian/Cataloger Naomi Frantes continues cataloging the map collection, greatly improving access and taking some basic repair and preservation measures as needed. Nearly 1,400 linear feet of archival records were accessioned and re-boxed, and 2,925 linear feet of materials were inventoried. More than 850 records series descriptions were reviewed for state and local government retention schedules.
- Compact shelving was installed in the second floor film vault for storage of microfilm master negatives, photographic prints and negatives, and motion picture film and audiovisual collections. New static shelving on the third floor made possible a shifting of the periodical collection.
- The National Film Preservation Foundation awarded a grant to restore the John Hanson 1977 documentary film *Prairie Fire*, about the Nonpartisan League.
- Minnesota Historical Society staff met in Bismarck with Archives staff and representatives from the Legislative Council and the Propylon Project regarding the Library of Congress National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP) grant to preserve the digital records of state legislatures.
- Archives staff delivered workshops and presentations on preservation of photographs, family history resources, creation of digital projects, web access to photographs, basic preservation, and archival holdings.

in 1985, and an elegant sequined dress Mrs. Sinner wore to a 1987 governors' dinner at the White House hosted by President Reagan.

Historic sites' temporary exhibits included the **Pembina State Museum's** *Lincoln's Legacy in North Dakota*, which opened February 12 on the 201st birthday of the



Photograph by James Oldermann, Odermann Communications

Participants in Fun in the Snow Day at the Chateau de Mores took a break from the sledding, skiing, and snowshoeing to roast hot dogs and sausages over the fire on the Interpretive Center patio January 15, 2010.

16th President, replacing *Emigrants from the Empires: North Dakota's Germans*. The exhibit, *The Photographs of Frank B. Fiske*, opened July 20, 2009 at the **Chateau de Mores State Historic Site's** new interpretive center, joining another temporary exhibit, *The Art of Einar Olstad*, featuring works by Dakota Badlands rancher and artist Einar Olstad (1878-1955). Born in Dakota Territory, Frank B. Fiske (1883-1952) spent most of his life in the Fort Yates area. 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 select photographs

focusing on daily life at Fort Yates.

At the **Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center**, *Emigrants from the Empires: North Dakota's Germans* opened April 23, 2010, examining what it meant to be German in North Dakota before and after both World Wars. Museum division staff travelled to the Confluence Center in March 2010 to assess the damage to the *North Dakota Remembers World War II* exhibit following a break-in to the building. No museum objects were lost as a result of this break-in. The exhibit was replaced by *Emigrants from the Empires* and underwent refurbishment for installation at the Chateau de Mores site in October 2010. *The Four Seasons at Camp Hancock* and *Weather in North Dakota*, looking at the history of this site through the seasons, including when it served as the region's U.S. Weather Bureau Station from 1894 to 1940, continued at **Camp Hancock State Historic Site** in Bismarck. *From Buckets of Oats to Quarts of Oil*, about the history of transportation in Bismarck, continued at the **Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site**. *Land in Her Own Name*, based on North Dakota State University sociologist Elaine Lindgren's study of 292 cases of women who homesteaded in North Dakota, was featured at **Fort Totten State Historic Site** the summer of 2010; *Photo Album of Historic North Dakota*, a selection of photographs from the photo archives of the State Historical Society documenting everyday life from the turn of the 20th Century, was also featured at the site the summer of 2009.

Photograph by DeLores Linn, SHSND



Donald Ehli of Dickinson portrays Hugo Sorenson, who shares with visitors stories about his duties as head waiterman in the 1880s at the Chateau de Mores in Medora. Daily tours are available at the site during the summer season.

Photograph by Chris Johnson, SHSND



As part of the restoration project of the Northern Pacific Locomotive 2164 at Camp Hancock State Historic Site, Bryan Turnbow, SHSND preparator, is shown here removing the lens from the rear light of the locomotive's tender, or coal car, prior to its repainting. Right, a contractor with Indigo Signworks of Bismarck applies new lettering to the freshly-painted tender.



Photograph by Mark Halvorson, SHSND

Education and Outreach

The Society's popular Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service (TIES) Program currently has 10 traveling exhibits for use by the general public. The newest additions are *Winter Memories: Having Fun and Keeping Warm*, which looks at the many ways North Dakotans enjoy the winter season; and, in conjunction with the *How Does Your Garden Grow?* exhibit, *The Seeds of Victory: Home Gardening Posters from the World Wars*. The program had 26 bookings during FY2010, reaching 16 communities statewide and beyond, drawing over 204,000 visitors, including more than 75,000 at the International Peace Garden in Dunseith, North Dakota, and Manitoba, Canada; more than 46,000 in Medora, North Dakota; and nearly 25,000 in Minnesota. Popular with teachers for classroom use, the Suitcase Exhibits for North Dakota (SEND) program had eight bookings in seven North Dakota communities, reaching more than 12,000 students in North Dakota schools and another 60 students in Minnesota. Classes from the University of Mary used the 36 SEND trunks (18 topics) and the North Dakota Heritage Center's main gallery to gain first-hand teaching experience through the *Teaching in the Gallery* program, with schoolchildren coming in from area communities. The State Historical Society was awarded funding through the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Space Grant Consortium at the University of North Dakota to develop a NASA and North Dakota-related education SEND trunk and TIES traveling exhibit available in 2011.

The SHSND again participated in National History Day, a program that encourages academic achievement for students in grades six through 12 through a series of district, state, and national competitions. The theme for History Day 2010 was "Innovation in History: Impact and Change." Participating students developed papers, exhibits, performances, or media documentaries based on a history-related topic. Several Society staff members served as judges for the March 26, 2010 competition at the North Dakota Heritage Center.

While visiting North Dakota's state historic sites, visitors enjoy shopping for North Dakota-made gifts and other unique products. Shopper Janice Sears (left) is assisted at the Fort Totten Museum Store by Jessie Reinke, administrative and program coordinator for the site. With nine store locations to enjoy throughout the state, travelers are able to find the perfect gift at the North Dakota Heritage Center, the Pembina State Museum, Fort Buford State Historic Site/Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, and the Chateau de Mores, Fort Abercrombie, Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile, Gingras Trading Post, Former Governors' Mansion, and Fort Totten State Historic Sites.

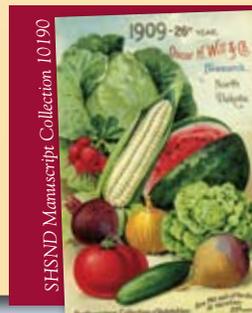


Photograph by Delores Linn, SHSND

The Society again hosted an exhibit booth at the annual Norsk Høstfest, the country's largest Scandinavian festival, held in Minot September 30-October 3, 2009. The agency also staffed booths at the state tourism annual conference in Minot and the United Tribes Technical College's annual pow wow in Bismarck. A National Quilting Day Quilt 'Til You Drop! event was hosted by the agency at the North Dakota Heritage Center, in partnership with area quilting groups. Other programs developed and presented by the Society and its partners included: *Making a Splash at Your Library*, launching the Bismarck-Mandan summer reading program June 2, 2010, with more than 4,000 children and adults at the North Dakota Heritage Center; Halloween events at the Pembina State Museum, Chateau de Mores, and Fort Buford State Historic Sites;

and the popular *Sensational Sundays* series from January through April 2010 at the North Dakota Heritage Center, with programming from the SHSND and the North Dakota Geological Survey. Other agency partnerships included continuing to develop, review, and assist the daily *Dakota Datebook* radio series with Prairie Public Broadcasting and promoting North Dakota literature and reading through the *Read North Dakota* program, with the North Dakota Humanities Council, Prairie Public Broadcasting, the North Dakota Council on the Arts, and the North Dakota Library Association.

The Society also hosted its annual Valentine's Day Social in February 2010 and Volunteer Recognition Banquet in August 2009 to honor the more than 200 Heritage Volunteers statewide, ages 14 to 93, who help the agency year-round. Since 1981, volunteers statewide have contributed more than 350,000 hours of service.



SHSND Manuscript Collection 10190

The exhibit *How Does Your Garden Grow?* opened in the Fall of 2009 at the North Dakota Heritage Center. Exploring the history of gardening in what is now North Dakota, it features gardening objects and images, such as this colorful back cover of the 1909 Oscar H. Will catalog.

2009 Governor's Conference on North Dakota History

“The 3 Rs in North Dakota: Education from 1870 to 1950” was the theme of the 2009 Governor’s Conference on North Dakota History held at the North Dakota Heritage Center September 25-26. It was the first of a two-part education theme for the annual conference, with the Fall 2010 theme covering the years 1951 to 2010. Featuring several speakers, the conference highlighted the impact of public education on the state and region and also launched a project intended to survey and record potential historic school sites statewide. Also presented was an all-day workshop, *Preserving Native American Artifacts in Museum and Historical Society Collections*, by **Neil Cockerline** from the Midwest Art Conservation Center in Minneapolis.

Awards honoring individual and group achievements in history were also presented. Recipient of the State Historical Society’s Excellence in Local History Award was **Jean Miller**, then 91, of Valley City. **Miller** served many years on the Barnes County Museum board of directors. She was also a long-time trail rider, storyteller, quiltmaker, and historian on the Fort Seward Wagon Train. Miller assembled several quilts documenting the experiences of trail riders on the Wagon Train, and her work can be seen by visiting

www.covered-wagon-train.com. The annual event celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2009.

Receiving the 2009 Association for Excellence in Local History Award was the **Northeast North Dakota Heritage Association** of Icelandic State Park. The Association entered into a partnership with the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department and Icelandic State Park to build a park visitor center as a state centennial project in 1989. The Pioneer Heritage Center, completed in 1988, was fully funded by the Heritage Association.

Also honored were **Marilyn Hudson** of Parshall and **Neil Howe** of Fargo, co-winners of the Society’s Heritage Profile Honor Award. Hudson has continued to have a distinguished career in public service since retiring from the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1992. Following her retirement, she began working part time at the Three Affiliated Tribes Museum in New Town, where she continues to work today. In addition to managing the administrative work of the facility, she designs exhibits, researches historical events, and serves as liaison between the museum and other organizations. Since his retirement as director of the North Dakota Center for Distance Education, Howe has been responsible for creating the textbooks through which North Dakota’s students learn the state’s history. His efforts in 2007 led to new textbooks for the fourth and eighth grade North Dakota Studies course requirements. In 2008 Howe and the Center for Distance Education worked with the State Historical Society in preparing a North Dakota history textbook for high school students, where none had existed before. Using articles from the Society’s journal, **North Dakota History**, it has been the recipient of national awards and is used in most high schools in North Dakota, as well as state colleges and universities. Howe also worked with other state agencies in producing books and online materials about North Dakota’s agricultural and natural history, the history of North Dakota’s American Indian nations, and about North Dakota state government.

The winner of the 2009 Editor’s Award for best article during the preceding year in **North Dakota History**, the SHSND’s quarterly journal, was **Claudia M. Pratt**, owner/operator of CMP Consulting, which assists small museums and non-profit organizations. Pratt was honored for her article in Volume 74.3 & 4, “Sculpting Lincoln: North Dakota’s Gift to the People of Norway.” She is the great-granddaughter of Dr. Herman Fjelde, who was a member of the Lincoln Statue Commission that generated the bust of Lincoln given to Norway in 1914 as part of the 100th anniversary of Norway adopting its constitution and declaring itself an independent nation.



Photograph by Dr. John Hognanson, North Dakota Geological Survey

The extraordinary dinosaur nicknamed “Dakota” arrived back at the North Dakota Heritage Center October 14, 2009 after spending its summer in Chiba, Japan, a suburb of Tokyo, as part of an international fossil exhibition. Here, its nearly four-ton body block is moved toward the paleontology lab in the Heritage Center after its arrival. The 67-million-year-old fossil of a hadrosaur, with skin, bones, and tendons preserved in sandstone, is one of the most scientifically important dinosaurs discovered. Portions of it went back on exhibit at the end of January 2010 and will remain at the Heritage Center at least until July 2015.



A painting of “Dakota,” copyright Julius T. Csotonyi (www.csotonyi.com)



Homesteading in the Virtual World

Using a web-based program called Second Life, an innovative “virtual world” educational course for elementary and secondary school levels was developed by SHSND Outreach Programs Coordinator Scott Schaffnit and then-Curator of Education Marilyn Snyder to enable students to live the life of late 19th Century homesteaders. The course, which provides a safe, student-friendly collaborative study of North Dakota

history, was developed as part of North Dakota’s Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial observance. Lincoln signed the Homestead Act and the charter for the Northern Pacific Railroad, which had major impacts in opening up settlement of then-Dakota Territory. Students use primary sources for researching the homesteaders, selecting homesteads, building homestead shacks, planting and harvesting crops, fighting natural disasters, and more.

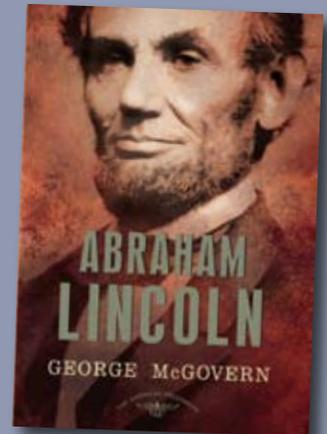
Shown at right is the landscape from 1890s-era homesteading offered in the course, including the town where homesteaders buy supplies before heading out to the quarter sections (160 acres) open for settlement. The homesteads range from the rough Badlands on the upper left to the flat prairies on the right.



Photograph by Andrea Winkler Collin



Former U.S. Senator George McGovern of South Dakota discussed his new book on Abraham Lincoln in a September 9, 2009 program at the North Dakota Heritage Center. More than 300 people turned out to hear the Democratic Party’s nominee for U.S. President in 1972 talk about his book, *Abraham Lincoln*, and answer questions. Calling him “our greatest President,” he said Lincoln’s greatest act was preserving the Union. “Lincoln provided the strong hand and reasoned discourse that eventually won the war,” said the 87-year-old McGovern.



As part of programming to celebrate the opening of the SHSND temporary exhibit, *Lincoln’s Legacy in North Dakota*, at the Pembina State Museum, Steve Stark of Fargo presented an illustrated history program May 22, 2010 documenting the life of Smith Stimmel (1842-1935), a longtime Fargo resident who served as one of President Lincoln’s White House bodyguards.



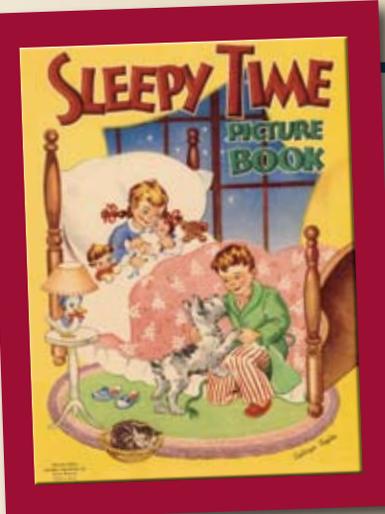
Photograph by Jeff Blanchard, SHSND

Publications

The SHSND Museum Stores reprinted a 1946 version of *The Sleepy Time Picture Book*. The original edition was printed by Whitman Publishing Company of Racine, Wisconsin. Enjoyed by the two sons of Jack and Thelma Liessman Vantine of Bismarck, this book is part of a SHSND collection that contains items from three generations between 1900 and 2000, donated by the Charles and Viola Liessman families of Tuttle and Bismarck, North Dakota.

The agency's quarterly journal, *North Dakota History*, featured 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 chronicles the life of the state's 29th chief executive.

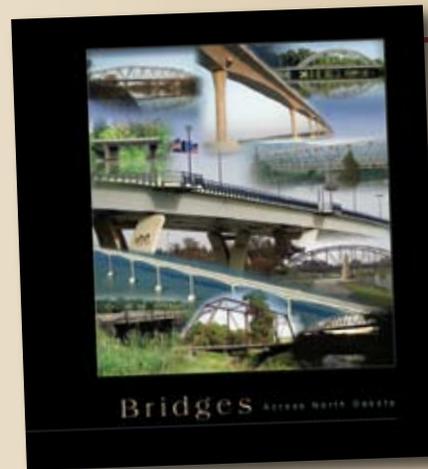
Born in Fargo in 1928, Sinner was raised on the family farm, originally part of the Dalrymple bonanza operation near Casselton, North Dakota. From 1962-66 he served in the North Dakota State Senate, and from 1982-84 in the North Dakota House of Representatives. In 1984 Sinner was elected governor, and 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



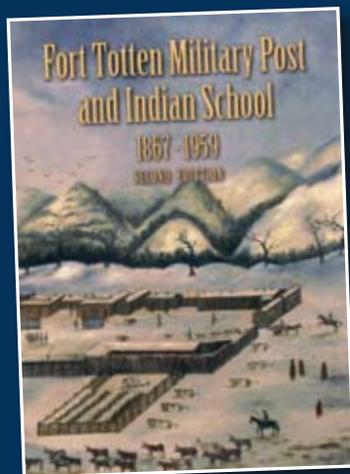
This 1946 reproduction of *The Sleepy Time Picture Book* became the eighth in a series of classic reprints produced by the State Historical Society of North Dakota's Museum Stores. Previous classic reprints have included a 1953 version of *The Big Book of Mother Goose* (2008), a 1946 version of *Cinderella* (2007), a 1904 version of *The Night Before Christmas* (2006), an 1897 version of *Beauty and the Beast* (2005), a 1942 *Three Little Kittens* book (2004), an 1888 version of *Red Riding Hood* (2003), and an 1896 edition of *The Night Before Christmas* (2002).

led the celebration of North Dakota's Centennial. His efforts slowed as a series of anti-tax referrals were approved by voters in December 1989.

A section in the article was written by Sinner's wife, Jane. She discusses how much she changed as First Lady of North Dakota – learning to work with employees, giving



The North Dakota Library Association awarded the 2010 Notable Government Document honor to *Bridges Across North Dakota* at its annual conference. The book, developed by the North Dakota Department of Transportation in partnership with the State Historical Society of North Dakota and other organizations, features photographs of modern and historic bridges and captures how the history of bridge engineering, technology, styles, and materials have changed over time. The State Historical Society's museum stores are the primary distributor of the books.

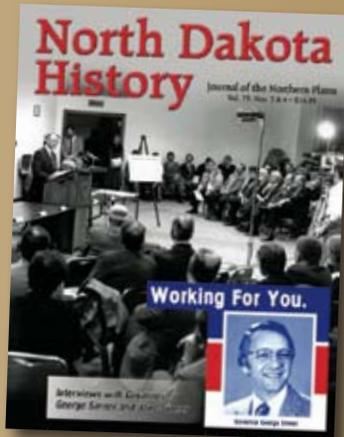


A second edition of *Fort Totten Military Post and Indian School, 1867-1959* includes new stories on the Fort Totten Indian School and experimental tuberculosis preventorium that the post housed during the early 1940s. This cover image, done by Mrs. Abel B. Conger in 1890, is based on an 1867 sketch by Louis Vaelkner, a member of the 31st Infantry Regiment. Conger's husband was also a member of the 31st and helped construct the fort.

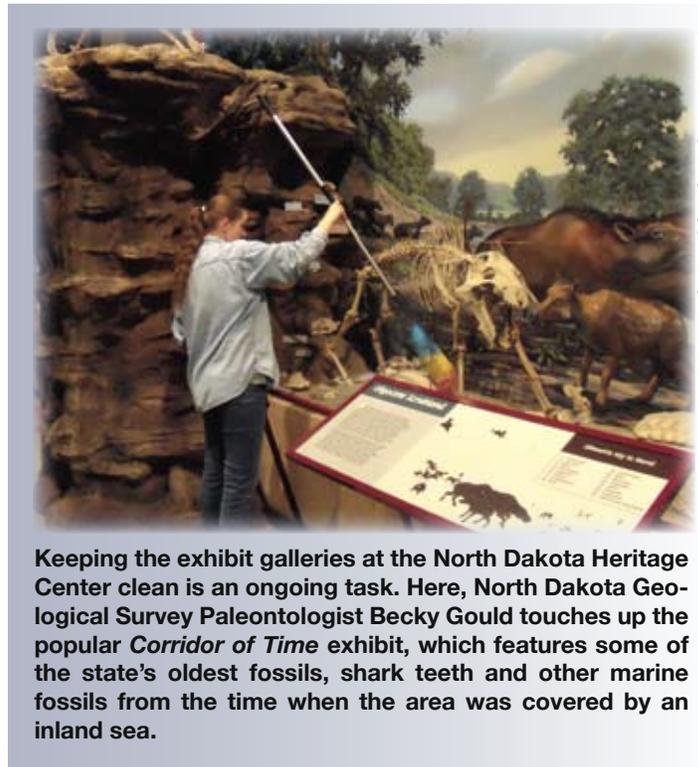
speeches, getting involved in projects such as preventing teen pregnancy, hosting dignitaries, and renovating the Governor's Residence.

After leaving office in 1992, the Sinners moved to Fargo, and 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.

This issue marked the fifth in an annual series of articles featuring interviews with North Dakota's most recent governors. The series began with John E. Davis (1957-61), the earliest governor whose oral history is available in the collections of the State Historical Society, and has continued with William L. Guy (1961-73), Arthur A. Link (1973-81), and Allen I. Olson (1981-84). The idea grew out of the 20th anniversary celebration of the opening of the North Dakota Heritage Center, which included a November 16, 2001 forum featuring all six of the state's surviving governors: William Guy, Arthur Link, Allen Olson, George Sinner, Edward Schafer, and John Hoeven.



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, this issue of *North Dakota History* tells the couple's life stories in their own words.



Photograph by Chris Johnson, SHSND

Keeping the exhibit galleries at the North Dakota Heritage Center clean is an ongoing task. Here, North Dakota Geological Survey Paleontologist Becky Gould touches up the popular *Corridor of Time* exhibit, which features some of the state's oldest fossils, shark teeth and other marine fossils from the time when the area was covered by an inland sea.



Photograph by Brian R. Austin, SHSND

An issue of *North Dakota History* is presented to former Governor George Sinner and former First Lady Jane Sinner by SHSND Editor Kathy Davison at an April 30, 2010 news conference at the North Dakota Heritage Center. Seated is First Lady Mikey Hoeven. The SHSND Foundation sponsored a reception following the news conference.



Photograph by Jessie Remke, SHSND

Fort Totten State Historic Site was the site of a colorful tent city August 4-5, 2009, as bicyclists on the Cycling Around North Dakota in Sakakawea Country (CANDISC) ride made a stop at the historic site. CANDISC, one of the largest cycling tours in the Midwest, travels through different routes across the state yearly – the 2009 ride in eastern North Dakota covered 426 miles.

Cultural Heritage Grant Program

Following the debut in the 2003-05 biennium of this popular grant program to help fund history-related projects statewide with a \$75,000 appropriation, the Legislative Assembly approved another increase in funding for the 2007-09 funding cycle, up from the 2005-07 figure of \$325,000 to \$375,000. A further increase was approved for the 2009-11 funding cycle, to \$504,500.

The Cultural Heritage Grant Program provides grant funding for local museums, historical societies and 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations with a project related to North Dakota history. Grants can be used to fund exhibits, special projects or events such as festivals, lecture series or publications, education programs, collections management care or research, capital improvements, and to purchase archival supplies.

The State Historical Society of North Dakota held two grant rounds, one in 2009 and one in 2010, awarding a total of \$453,000 to 65 organizations. The funds have been used to support a variety of projects, including:

- The Hiddenwood Old Settlers Association, which received \$2,124 to help with the restoration of the siding on the 102-year-old Hiddenwood Old Settlers Chapel located near Makoti.
- The Lisbon Park Board, which received \$4,220 in conjunction with Jacob Gallagher, as part of his Boy Scout Eagle rank project, for the restoration of the Lisbon Park Log Cabin.
- The Dickinson Museum Center, which received \$785 to update the archival storage of the textile collection.
- The Greater Grand Forks Symphony Association, which received \$4,300 for the publication of the book by Theodore B. Jelliff, *The First Hundred Years: Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra*.
- Museums in North Dakota (MiND), which received \$8,135 to support the *TRACES: Center for History and Culture World War II* traveling bus exhibit that visited 21 communities throughout North Dakota.

Also available through the Cultural Heritage Grant program are Heritage Training Scholarships and the North Dakota Museum Assessment Program (NDMAP). Heritage Training Scholarships for local and county historical society staff members to participate in training opportunities and are awarded until the fund is exhausted. The NDMAP grants provide county historical societies an opportunity to do an in-depth review of their organization, develop long-range plans, and complete a project.

To receive Cultural Heritage Grants, museums and historical organizations must provide at least a dollar-for-dollar match. This can be a combination of cash or in-kind services. For more information on the Cultural Heritage Grant Program, contact the SHSND's Grants and Contracts Officer, Amy Munson, at 701.328.3573 or email amunson@nd.gov.



Courtesy Wikipedia

The Hatton-Eielson Museum in Hatton received a \$10,000 cultural heritage grant for painting the exterior of this 110-year-old Victorian house, the boyhood home of legendary polar aviator Carl Ben Eielson (1897-1929).



College interns gain valuable hands-on experience as they work with staff at the state's history agency in several specialized areas. The program has been benefiting students and the State Historical Society since 1982. Interns enjoyed a break from their work during a June 23, 2010 visit to several historic sites. The annual tour to familiarize the Society's interns with the state and its history was led by Jenny Yearous, SHSND curator of collections, and Naomi Frantes, SHSND cataloger. Shown here at Double Ditch Indian Village State Historic Site are (l to r) Alicia Liebel, Andrew Kerr, Naomi Frantes, Joel Drevlow, Geoffrey Woodcox, Lori Nohner, Alyssa Boge, Rachel Trythall, Kelly Owens, Stacy Schaffer, and Rachel Gruszka. Not pictured: Tracy Popp.

Archaeology and Historic Preservation

Four sites and two districts were added to the National Register of Historic Places between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010. These sites include the Denbigh Station in McHenry County, the Old Settlers Pavilion in Nelson County, the Walla Theater in Walsh County, and the Ingersoll School in McLean County. The two districts were the University of North Dakota Historic District (56 buildings) and a boundary increase in the Cathedral Area Historic District (added seven properties) in Bismarck. As of June 30, 2010 there were 408 listings in the National Register for North Dakota. Of these, 387 were individual listings and 1,969 contributing properties to 21 districts.

Through the use of National Park Service Historic Preservation funds, the SHSND provided \$192,725 to restore, rehabilitate, and protect National Register-listed properties. These matching grants encourage private and non-federal investment in historic preservation efforts throughout the state. Development grants were awarded to the Bagg Bonanza Farm (Main House), the Hettinger County Historical Society (Dr. S.W. Hill Drug Store) in Regent, the Grand Forks County Fairgrounds

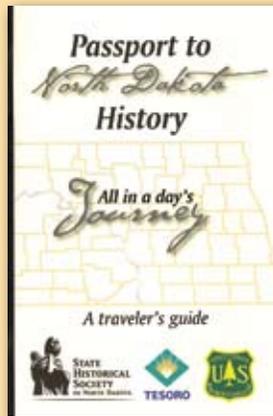
(Fair Administrative Building), the Leach Public Library in Wahpeton, the Lisbon Opera House Foundation, the

Lake Region Heritage Center (U.S. Post Office and Courthouse in Ramsey County) in Devils Lake, the Hatton Eielson Museum, the Devils Lake Masonic Temple, the Keith and Meridee Danks Home in Grand Forks, and the Grand Forks County Fair and Exposition (grandstand). In addition, an archaeological survey of 1,200 acres along Apple Creek in Burleigh County was undertaken by Metcalf Archeological Consultants, and architect Steve Martens authored an historic context and National Register of Historic Places Nomination of the structures built under the Federal Relief Programs of the 1930s throughout North Dakota.

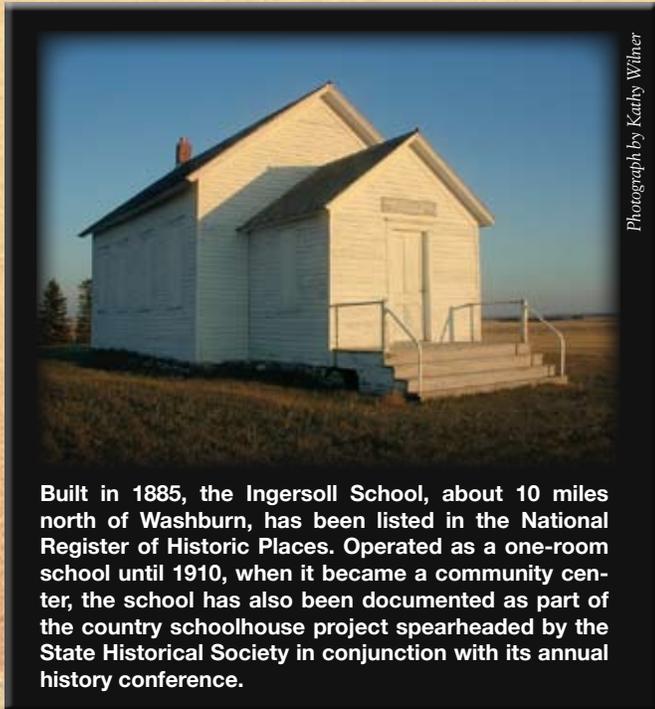
Each year a minimum of 10 percent of the Historic Preservation funds are dedicated to Certified Local Governments (CLG) and available through a competitive grant award. A CLG is a unit of local (town, city or county) government that has met the requirements of, and has applied for, certification to become a fully participating partner

in national and state historic preservation programs. The cities of Buffalo, Devils Lake, Dickinson, Fargo, and Grand Forks, as well as Walsh and Pembina counties, are all certified Local Governments. A total of \$132,559 in funding was granted to the CLGs in North Dakota in 2009-10. These projects included:

- City of Buffalo: \$13,445 for administrative expenses and education opportunities and installation of an ADA ramp at the Buffalo High School
- City of Devils Lake: \$4,985 for the development and publication of a walking tour brochure of historic downtown
- City of Dickinson: \$8,525 for administrative expenses and survey of their downtown
- City of Fargo: \$11,933 for administrative expenses and a National Register District Nomination
- City of Grand Forks: \$51,538 for administration, two building nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, and the development and printing of a brochure



40,000 copies of the national award-winning *Passport to North Dakota History* were republished and distributed at the nearly 90 Tesoro retail stations in North Dakota and the region, thanks to a \$25,000 grant from Tesoro.



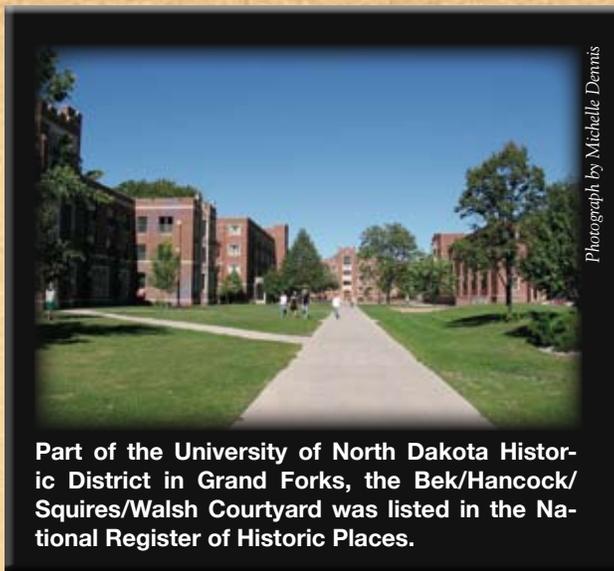
Photograph by Kathy Wilner

Built in 1885, the Ingersoll School, about 10 miles north of Washburn, has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Operated as a one-room school until 1910, when it became a community center, the school has also been documented as part of the country schoolhouse project spearheaded by the State Historical Society in conjunction with its annual history conference.

- Pembina County: \$18,608 for administration, education opportunities, the purchase of plaques for National Register properties, and hosting a historic preservation workshop
- Walsh County: \$23,525 for administration, education opportunities, the purchase of plaques for National Register properties, and a nomination to the National Register

The State Historical Society contributes to North Dakota's economic development by assisting owners of historic buildings in obtaining federal investment tax credits for rehabilitation projects. Society staff members make recommendations on listing in the National Register and review rehabilitation plans to ensure they conform to federal standards.

The Society's Archaeology and Historic Preservation Division continued incorporating recorded archaeological, historical, and architectural sites in North Dakota into an access data base and a multi-layered digital mapping format, the Geographic Information System (GIS). The site data base at the end of FY2010 contained 52,800 archaeological, historical, and architectural sites. This past year 620 archaeological sites, 174 historical archaeological sites, and 78 architectural sites were added to the database. In addition 289 sites were updated. There are approximately 11,600 cultural resource reports in the division's manuscript collection, with 666 added over the past year. An ArcIMS (Internet Map Server) has been developed and allows users to view, retrieve, and interact with the information relevant to this sensitive cultural data set. This has proven to be an invaluable tool to cultural resource professionals, researchers, and project planners working in North Dakota. The GIS has been undertaken in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.



Photograph by Michelle Dennis

Part of the University of North Dakota Historic District in Grand Forks, the Bek/Hancock/Squires/Walsh Courtyard was listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The division is the state's sole repository to house and manage the cultural resource site files and cultural resource manuscript collections. These files are used by cultural resource professionals and SHSND staff on a daily basis for federal undertakings. Visitors using these files this past fiscal year totaled 1,008, a 22 percent increase from the previous year.

The division also responded to 3,148 Section 106

projects submitted by federal agencies or their representatives, a 25 percent increase from the previous year. The increase is primarily due to flooding disasters and oil and gas development in the state. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires consideration of historic preservation in federal actions, a process involving the federal agency and the state or tribal historic preservation officer.

In an effort to provide online forms, manuals, and documents, the division created 2009 versions of the NDCRS site forms

and revised the *NDCRS Site Form Training Manual*. Other documents published online include the 2008 version of the *Archaeological Component of the North Dakota Comprehensive Plan for Historic Preservation* and the *2009 Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan*.

Other documents available online on the SHSND's website at www.history.nd.gov include: *Ethnic Architecture in Stark County, North Dakota*; *Nonpartisan League's Home Building Association Resources in North Dakota*; *Railroads in North Dakota, 1872-1956*; *Bonanza Farming in North Dakota*; *Episcopal Churches of North Dakota*; *German-Russian Wrought Iron Cross Sites in Central North Dakota*; *Philanthropically Established Libraries in North Dakota*; *Ukrainian Immigrant Dwellings and Churches in North Dakota from Early Settlement Until the Depression*; *The Evolution of Van Horn and Ritterbush*; and *The Evolution of Gilbert R. Horton*.

The SHSND continued into the seventh year of a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation to accession and catalog the one million-plus artifacts belonging to the Bureau but curated in the Society's collections, with all materials to be bagged and boxed in acid-free containers and a database containing the accession and catalog records generated. The project will result in better access to the Bureau's museum property for research, educational, and public use.



701-557-9190
Standard cell rates apply

HISTORY
on CALL

Explore historic sites and attractions across North Dakota. 24 hour access to short recorded narratives.

A partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service provided a \$15,000 donation to continue and enhance the *History on Call* program. *History on Call* offers a phone number that can be accessed by cell or regular telephone to get information about the historic sites included in the *Passport to North Dakota History*.

Staff and Board Transitions

Ron Warner was selected by his colleagues to receive the 2009 Staff Award for Excellence. Warner has been with the Society since July 1, 1973, when the agency's headquarters were located in the Liberty Memorial Building. The administrative officer for the Support Services Division, he has authored several articles and book reviews for the Society's quarterly journal, *North Dakota History*. He served on the North Dakota Humanities Council from 1991 to 1997 and was its chair from 1993 to 1994.

Also honored at the Society's holiday gathering December 15, 2009 were these staff members for their years of state government service in North Dakota:

- 30 years: **Lloyd Jensen**, construction supervisor
- 25 years: **David Fournier**, instrument technician
- 20 years: **Jack Mattson**, Fort Totten site supervisor
- 15 years: **Paul Picha**, chief archaeologist
- Elaine Schlinger**, administrative assistant
- 10 years: **Beth Campbell**, visitors services coordinator
- Kathy Davison**, editor
- Larissa Harrison**, archives specialist
- 5 years: **Gene Baker**, microfilm specialist
- Duane Edwards**, security officer
- Delores Linn**, Chateau de Mores site supervisor

New SHSND staff members included **Emily Ergen**, archives specialist; and **Erik Holland**, who began work August 1, 2009 as Fort Buford site supervisor. He was promoted to curator of education effective April 1, 2010.

The following staff members retired: **Marilyn Snyder**, curator of education; **Walter Bailey**, historic preservation planner; and **David Fournier**, security officer/instrument technician.

There were also changes on the State Historical Board, which oversees the operations of the state's history agency, during FY2010. **Calvin Grinnell** of New Town was appointed and **Gereld Gerntholz** of Valley City was reappointed to three-year terms, effective July 1, 2009 (the beginning date of FY2010). North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department Director **Douglass Prchal** retired; appointed by Governor Hoeven to replace him effective May 1, 2010 was **Mark Zimmerman**, who had been Outdoor Promotions Manager for the North Dakota Department of Commerce Tourism Division.

Thank you for the work you do at this historic Minuteman missile site. She all enjoyed the interesting tour with Judy. She was very helpful & answered our questions. Our state has done a good job to preserve this site for all American. Living in ND & this area for 60+ years we were aware of the missile but never realized the work & service of the Air Force, on these site's. Again Thank Hunter ND Senior Citizens Group, Gloria H. Porter, Sect.

Staff at the North Dakota Heritage Center and the SHSND's State Historic Sites statewide receive many letters of thanks each year. These notes were received from the Hunter, North Dakota, Senior Citizens Group and the Prairie Rose 4-H Club, following tours at the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site near Cooperstown.

mark and the staff at cooperstown, Thank you for the awesome tour you gave our club at the Oscar-Zero site. We all learned a great deal. Prairie Rose 4H club

The SHSND Foundation

The State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The Foundation provides fundraising support for the expansion needs of the State Historical Society through state and other funding, as well as enhancing its membership base to encourage the growth of the state's history agency at all levels.

Highlights of FY2010 included:

- Development Director Marlo Sveen traveled to Oklahoma, Colorado, and Texas to visit with oil companies about potential donations to the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion project. Followup continued throughout the year with CEOs and their boards securing significant contributions.
- The History's Heroes program was launched in the fall of 2009. Families, businesses, and cities are being asked to consider a \$10,000 donation to the expansion, with a goal of seeking 10 gifts from each of the state's 53 counties. Luncheons in Bismarck and Mandan raised \$110,000 in gifts, and by the end of FY2010 \$440,000 had been raised by team efforts statewide. Portal, Lignite, Powers Lake, and Kindred were the first towns to become History Hero Legacy Communities. Dan's SuperMarkets of Bismarck provided food for the luncheons in the Bismarck-Mandan area.
- History's Trustees Mike Gustafson, Bill and Alice Schott, Hollis Nappen, Bruce Schwartz, Chuck and Janet Esser, Don Walz, Cordell Dick, and Larry Mettler collaborated to bring service club support to the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion and market the History's Heroes campaign. Statewide conventions for Lions and the League of Cities were attended and contacts made with Sertoma Clubs, Optimist Clubs, and Kiwanis Clubs statewide.
- HGA Inc. hosted a fundraising reception at its Minneapolis headquarters October 9, 2009, with 85 guests including members of the Foundation and Society board, Trustees and supporters, and HGA staff – plus friends from the Minneapolis area. Former Governor Allen

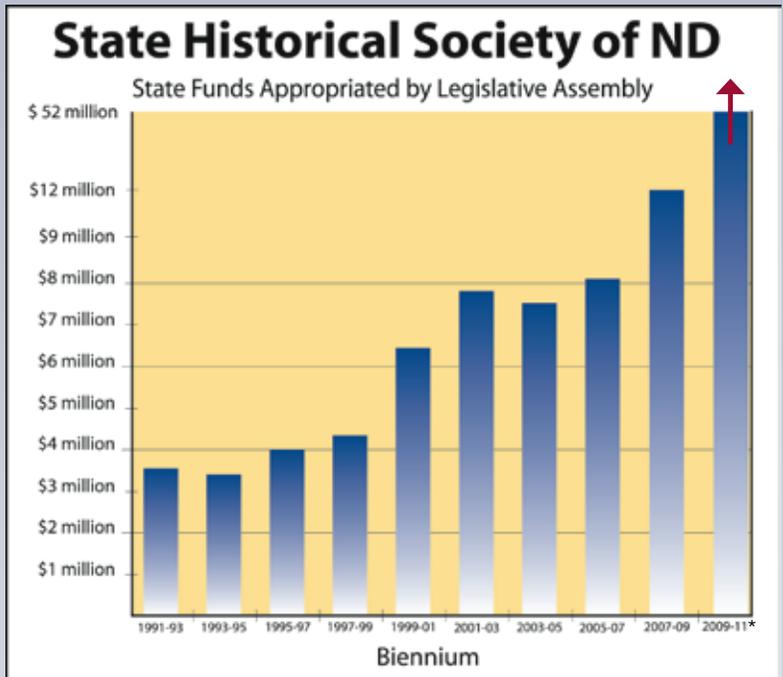


History's
Foundation
State Historical Society
of North Dakota Foundation

Olson and First Lady Barbara Olson, former Governor Ed Schafer and First Lady Nancy Schafer, and Lt. Governor Jack Dalrymple were hosts for the event. HGA is one of the architectural firms for the expansion.

- By June 30, 2010 the Foundation had raised \$6.3 million for the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion project, representing gifts from more than 160 donors.
- Marlo Sveen and Foundation board member Mike Gustafson attended the May 2-4, 2010 Williston Basin Petroleum Conference in Bismarck, reaching national, regional, and local leaders in this industry. A \$100,000 donation was made by the North Dakota Petroleum Council to the expansion from this event.
- Former Governor Art Link, who died June 1, 2010, will be remembered for spearheading the launch of the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion dream by bringing together former governors Guy, Olson, Sinner, and Schafer, and Governor Hoeven for the November 2001 Six Governors Forum at the Heritage Center. This event resulted in a request from the former governors for Governor Hoeven to appoint the State Historical Society of North Dakota Commission, which recommended seven major investments in the state's history agency. Much is owed to Link and his wife, Grace, as leaders, donors, and friends.
- The *Passport to North Dakota History* was printed a fourth time with a \$25,000 grant from the Tesoro Corporation. This year an Energy Trail map was added to the passport with in-kind support from Basin Electric Power Cooperative, highlighting opportunities for tours and visits to mines and other energy operations statewide.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service provided a \$28,000 gift to the Heritage Center expansion project, which will provide an interactive map on a tabletop computer that will house *Passport to North Dakota History* information and more details on North Dakota Grasslands and historic sites.

- A growing partnership is being formed with Scott Davis, executive director of the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission, to create opportunities for tribal elders and other American Indian leaders to share in the process of developing exhibits and programs for the Heritage Center expansion.
- Direct mail efforts continued, with a special mailing from Trustee Dave Schott to fellow geologists trained at the University of North Dakota asking for their membership and support. Staff and volunteers orchestrated these efforts. Volunteers continue to be a valuable asset to the Foundation, managing its memorial program, direct mail, and other important services throughout the year. Experience Works, a federal job program, also provides the Foundation with two support staff positions.
- Fundraising and membership information and other Foundation activities are highlighted in the Foundation's website at www.statehistorical-foundation.com.



* includes \$39.7 million funding for North Dakota Heritage Center expansion

SHSND Foundation Board (FY2010)

Jon McMillan, president, Fordville
 Wally Beyer, vice president, Bismarck
 Barbara S. Lang, treasurer, Jamestown
 Darrell L. Dorgan, secretary, Bismarck
 Pat Grantier, Bismarck
 Michael Gustafson, Kindred
 Armen Hanson, Devils Lake
 Robert M. Horne, Minot
 Jack Johnson, Fargo
 Thomas J. Riley, Fargo
 Dalles Schneider, Bismarck
 SHSND liaison – Gereld Gerntholz, Valley City

State Historical Board (FY2010)

Chester E. Nelson, Jr., president, Bismarck
 Gereld Gerntholz, vice president, Valley City
 Richard Kloubec, secretary, Fargo
 Albert I. Berger, Grand Forks
 Calvin Grinnell, New Town
 Diane K. Larson, Bismarck
 A. Ruric Todd III, Jamestown
 Sara Otte Coleman, Director,
 Department of Commerce Tourism Division
 Alvin A. Jaeger, Secretary of State
 Douglass Prchal, Director,
 Department of Parks and Recreation
 Mark A. Zimmerman, Director,
 Department of Parks and Recreation
 (effective May 1, 2010)
 Kelly Schmidt, State Treasurer
 Francis G. Ziegler, Director,
 Department of Transportation

New to the National Register

By Amy Bellefeuille

A school, roadside fountain, stone structures, and an amphitheater are the most recent North Dakota properties that have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Federal Relief Construction in North Dakota, 1931-1943 is a statewide historic project developed to assist with the nomination of properties built during the Depression Era as part of the relief effort. This document provides background and establishes criteria to help evaluate and list historic federal relief properties. Three different types of properties were listed with this document. They are:

- **The Depression Era Work Relief Construction Features at Menoken State Historic Site** in Burleigh County were built by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) to enhance and provide some information on the site.
- A good example of another relief project is the **Alkabo School** in Alkabo, designed by Edwin W. Molander and built by the William Nordman Company of Noonan, North Dakota. This Divide County school combines the Italian Renaissance Style with American Colonial Revival architecture to create the most prominent building in the community.
- **The Crystal Springs Fountain** WPA project was supervised by local artisan Arthur "Art" Geisler in 1935. Travelers who stopped for a break helped Crystal Springs businesses.

Another property separate from this project was also listed: the **Amphitheater and Fieldstone WPA Features at Valley City Pioneer Park** in Barnes County. It consists of four fieldstone cairns to mark the entrance to the park, the only fieldstone amphitheater in the state, and the word "PIONEER" spelled with stones, all built by the WPA in 1937.



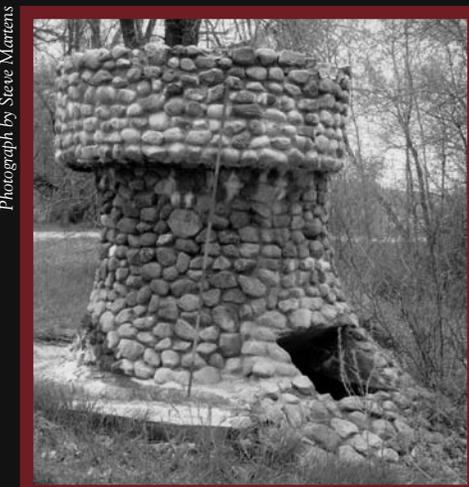
Photograph by Steve Marrens

The Alkabo School in Divide County was built by WPA workers in 1934.



Photograph by Steve Marrens

The WPA-constructed information site at Menoken State Historic Site near Bismarck.



Photograph by Steve Marrens

The Crystal Springs Fountain along old U.S. Highway 10 near Crystal Springs in Kidder County offered motorists a place to rest and stretch. It also offered good spring water for a drink or to cool their radiators.



Photograph by Steve Marrens

The fieldstone amphitheater at Valley City Pioneer Park in Barnes County.

For more information about the *Calendar of Events*, call 701.328.2666 or visit www.history.nd.gov

April

April 7
State Historical Society Board meeting, 9 a.m. North Dakota Heritage Center.

April 8
National History Day in North Dakota competition at North Dakota Heritage Center. The theme is *Debate and Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences*. For more, call SHSND Curator of Education Erik Holland at 701.328.2792 or visit nd.nhd.org.

April 8
North Dakota State Genealogical Society meeting, 1 to 4 p.m. State Archives, North Dakota Heritage Center.

April 8-9, May 6-7
Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site open, 1 to 5 p.m. Free admission. Located in Bismarck at the corner of Fourth Street and Avenue B, 701.328.9528.

April 10
Sensational Second Sundays, 2 p.m. Features Mark Varien, research and education chair, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in Cortez, Colorado, on "The Origins of Pueblo Society and Development of the Mesa Verde World," North Dakota Heritage Center, 701.328.2792.

April 16
Confluence Quilters, 9 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.

April 16
Easter Egg Hunt, 2 to 4 p.m. Pembina State Museum, 701.825.6840.

April 17
Concert at the Confluence, 3 p.m. Enjoy a wonderful *Concert at the Confluence* while overlooking one of North Dakota's most beautiful natural sights. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

April 18-20
2011 North Dakota Tourism Conference, Holiday Inn, Fargo. The theme is *Teaming with Possibilities*, 701.328.2525.

April 21
Fort Buford History Book Club, 7:30 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.

April 23
Easter Egg Hunt at the Confluence, 11 a.m., Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

April 24
Easter Egg Hunt, 11 a.m. (MT). Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora, 701.623.4355.

April 24
Easter Sunday. North Dakota Heritage Center, Pembina State Museum, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site, and Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center closed.

April 29
State Historic Preservation Review Board meeting, 10 a.m. North Dakota Heritage Center.

April 29
SHSND Foundation Board meeting, 10 a.m. North Dakota Heritage Center.

May

May 1-31
National Historic Preservation Month. This year's theme is "Celebrating America's Treasures."

May 7
Paddlefishing the Confluence, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Only two days after the opening of paddlefish season

at the Confluence, learn more about the mysterious paddlefish, 701.572.9034.

May 8
Sensational Second Sundays, 2 p.m., Mother's Day. Area American Indian women discuss gender roles in traditional cultures – how they have changed and adapted. North Dakota Heritage Center, 701.328.2792.

May 12
Fort Buford History Book Club, 7:30 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.

May 14
Wine Social at the Chateau de Mores, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. (MT). Sponsored by the Friends of Chateau de Mores State Historic Site.

May 14
North Dakota Archaeological Association annual spring meeting, 9 a.m. Presentations on North Dakota archaeology and paleontology, exhibits, historic site tours, and banquet. Griggs County Historical Society, Cooperstown. For more, call 701.328.3567 or visit <http://www.ndarchaeology.org>.

May 15
Flag Raising at Fort Buford, 2 p.m. Celebrate the first weekend of the summer season with an official flag raising by the Sixth Infantry Regiment Association and visit by Theodore Roosevelt, as portrayed by Arch Ellwein. Fort Buford State Historic Site. 701.572.9034.

May 16
North Dakota State Historic Sites open for the season, through September 15.

May 16
The Pembina State Museum begins summer hours through September 15, Mondays-Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sundays, 1 to 6 p.m. CT. **The Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center** begins summer hours through September 15, 8:30 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. daily, with last tickets

sold at 5:50 p.m. MT, and the Chateau is open until 6:30 p.m. **The Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center** begins summer hours through September 15, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, CT. **The Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site** begins summer hours through September 15, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, CT.

May 18
Free admission to all State Historic Sites to celebrate International Museum Day.

May 18
Free observation tower admission in celebration of International Museum Day, Pembina State Museum, 701.825.6840.

May 21
Confluence Quilters, 9 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.

May 21
Concert at the Confluence, 7 p.m. Enjoy Judy Cook, a folksinger/historical balladeer from Laurel, Maryland, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

May 22
Sensational Sundays program, 2 p.m. Enjoy Judy Cook, a folksinger/historical balladeer from Laurel, Maryland. North Dakota Heritage Center, 701.328.2792.

May 30
Memorial Day Observances at Pembina State Museum, 10:30 a.m., in conjunction with the Kern-Thompson American Legion Post 77, 701.825.6840.

May 30
Memorial Day Observances at Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

June

June 1-30
Artist of the Month program featuring the display, *Art of Iron Works*. Local artists Paul and Joan Eldridge use local iron to create works of art. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

June 3
One World, Many Stories, Bismarck/Mandan Summer Reading Kickoff, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fun activities for children. North Dakota Heritage Center and North Dakota State Library.

June 4-5
History Alive!, 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.

June 9
Fort Buford History Book Club, 7:30 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 11
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 11-12
History Alive!, 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 11-12
History Alive!, featuring buffalo hunter *Yellowstone Vic Smith*, at 2 and 4 p.m. at Fort Buford State Historic Site, 701.572.9034.

June 14
De Mores Day, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (MT). Celebrate the Marquis de Mores's 153rd birthday! Cake and coffee in the interpretive center. Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

June 18
Confluence Quilters, 9 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 18-19
History Alive!, 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 18-19
7th U.S. Cavalry Demonstrations by frontier army reenactors showing cavalry drills from the era. Presentations at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Fort Buford State Historic Site, 701.572.9034.

June 19
Concert at the Confluence, 2 p.m. Featuring the Cotton Wood Bluegrass Band, from Washburn, North Dakota. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

June 23
State Historical Records Advisory Board meeting, 1 p.m. (MT) at the North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame, Medora.

June 25-26
History Alive!, 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.

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 **Eighth Fort Robinson History Conference** will be held April 28-30 at Fort Robinson State Park near Crawford, Nebraska. The theme is “The Civil War in the American West.” Co-sponsored by the Nebraska State Historical Society and the Nebraska Game and Fish Department. For more, call 402.471.3272 or email ana.hatcher@nebraska.gov.
- The **43rd Annual Dakota Conference on History, Literature, Art, and Archaeology** will be held April 29-30 at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The theme, presented by the Center for Western Studies at Augustana College, is “The Civil War and the Northern Plains: A Sesquicentennial Observance.” For more, contact Outreach and Communication Director Tim Hoheisel, Center for Western Studies, 2001 S. Summit Avenue, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD 57197, call 605.274.4007 or email tim.hoheisel@augie.edu.
- The **American Association of Museums (AAM)** will hold its annual meeting May 22-25 in Houston, Texas. The theme is “The Museum of Tomorrow.” For more, call the AAM office at 866.226.2150 or visit www.aam-us.org.
- The **American Association for State and Local History (AASLH)** will hold its annual meeting September 14-17 in Houston, Texas. The theme is “Commemoration: The Promise of Remembrance and New Beginnings.” For more, call the AASLH office at 615.320.3203 or visit www.aaslh.org.
- The **46th Annual Northern Great Plains History Conference (NGPHC)** will be held September 21-24 at Minnesota State University (MSU) in Mankato. Sponsored by the Department of History at MSU-Mankato. For more, contact Dr. Charles Piehl, Program Chair, at 507.389.5316 or email at charles.piehl@mnsu.edu. The Society for Military History will also sponsor sessions at the NGPHC.
- The **19th Annual West River History Conference** will be held September 22-24 at the Surbeck Center, the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology in Rapid City, South Dakota. The theme is “Lowdowns and Showdowns: Western Events and Happenings.” For more, call Shebby Lee, president, West River History Conference, at 605.343.4852 or email wrhc@shebbyleetours.com.
- The **51st Annual Western History Association (WHA)** Conference will be held October 13-16 in Oakland, California. The theme is “Modern Histories of Ancient Places.” For more, call the WHA at 314.516.7282, visit www.westernhistoryassociation.org or email wha@umsl.edu.
- The **Mountain-Plains Museum Association (MPMA)** will hold its 57th annual conference October 17-21 in Helena, Montana. For more, call the MPMA at 303.979.9358 or visit www.mpma.net.
- The **National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP)** will hold its annual National Preservation Conference October 19-22 in Buffalo, New York. The theme is “Alternating Currents.” For more, call the NTHP at 1.800.944.6847, email at conference@nthp.org or visit www.preservationation.org.
- The **69th Annual Plains Anthropological Conference** will be held October 26-29 in Tucson, Arizona. For more, contact conference chair Dr. Maria Nieves Zedeno at mzedeno@email.arizona.edu or 520.621.9607.
- The **6th Annual Theodore Roosevelt Symposium** will be held October 27-30 at Dickinson State University (DSU) in Dickinson, North Dakota, in conjunction with the Theodore Roosevelt Association 92nd Annual Meeting. The theme is “Theodore Roosevelt: In the Arena of the West.” For more, call DSU at 701.483.2166, 1.866.496.8797 or visit www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org.
- The **23rd Annual Governor’s Conference on North Dakota History** will be held October 28-29 at the Bismarck Civic Center, sponsored by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND). The theme is “Too Much or Too Little: The Story of Water in North Dakota.” For more, call SHSND Curator of Education Erik Holland at 701.328.2792 or email eholland@nd.gov.

SOCIETY NEWS

Valentine Volunteers

Photograph by Beth Campbell, SHSND



The State Historical Society's annual Valentine Social for its many Heritage volunteers was held February 14 at the North Dakota Heritage Center. More than 150 volunteers attended, including Museum Store volunteers Harriet Heaton (left) and Doris Elness. Doris has been a volunteer since 1988 and Harriet since 1994. Since 1981, volunteers have contributed more than 350,000 hours of service to the state's history agency.

Honoring the Links



Photograph by Johnathan Campbell, SHSND

The dedication of a bronze plaque honoring former Governor Arthur A. Link (1914-2010) and First Lady Grace Link took place February 13 at the Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site in Bismarck. The plaque honors the longtime leadership of the Links in preserving the site since the 1950s. Ceremonies were held during the annual Governor Arthur A. Link Fiddle Festival, featuring student performances and a bluegrass jam. Here, Grace Link and SHSND Director Merl Paaverud present the plaque.

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