



Plains Talk

Water: Too Much, Too Little

Volume 42, Number 2 - Summer 2011

North Dakota History Conference October 28-29

By Kathleen Davison

Water is a topic of great interest to North Dakotans: rainfall amounts, measured in hundredths of an inch, are often discussed in detail – how much rain have we had, is it going to rain tomorrow, is it too dry or too wet? Water, whether too much or too little (and only rarely just right), has shaped life in North Dakota for millennia. It has largely determined where we live, how we travel, what we do to make a living, and what we do for fun. Sometimes too little water has created great clouds of blowing soil that pushed people to distant places. Other times, rising water and floods have destroyed homes and endangered residents.

This year the 23rd Annual Governor's Conference on North Dakota History, to be held October 28 and 29, will examine the impacts of water on the history of North Dakota. Due to the expansion construction at the North Dakota Heritage Center, the conference, entitled *Too Much or Too Little: The Story of Water in North Dakota*, will be held at the Bismarck Civic Center. After the Friday sessions, the annual awards dinner will also be held

continued on page 2

Taken about 1940 near Camp Grafton, this photograph shows how water levels at Devils Lake have changed over time. The crossbar near the top of the pole shows the water level in 1870 at 1,437 feet. By 1880 the level, as shown on the next crossbar, had fallen to 1,433 feet. Twenty years later, in 1900, the crossbar at the second from the bottom shows a lake level of 1,424 feet. Ten years later the level had fallen to 1,421 feet, and by the time this was taken, the lake had receded to the background of the photograph. If this pole were still standing today, the top crossbar would be more than 17 feet under water.



SHSND 00096-82

Photograph by Brian R. Austin, SHSND



Birds of North Dakota

New Exhibit Opening at ND Heritage Center

By Bonnie T. Johnson

Exhibit crews have been busy putting hundreds of birds into place for the latest addition to the main gallery at the North Dakota Heritage Center. *Birds of North Dakota* will open to the public Friday, July 1. This highly anticipated exhibit updates and expands the original *Birds of North Dakota*, which has remained one of the most popular sections of the gallery since the Heritage Center opened in 1981.

Birds of North Dakota is produced by the state's history agency, the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND).

continued on page 2

This rare example of an extinct passenger pigeon is featured in the redesigned *Birds of North Dakota* exhibit opening July 1. A flock of passenger pigeons was incredible to behold. A single colony in flight over North Dakota could cover 180 square miles and take days to pass. Roosting flocks could break limbs and topple trees, leaving many inches or even feet of droppings on the ground. Habitat destruction and unregulated hunting decimated the population in the 19th Century. The last passenger pigeon, "Martha," died September 1, 1914 at a zoo in Cincinnati, Ohio. This specimen from the exhibit is believed to have been originally mounted in Canada in the 1870s. It was acquired from Laura Fairbanks of Santa Cruz, California in May 1927, and remounted that September in the case shown here by Mandan, North Dakota taxidermist and naturalist G.P. Rugg.

North Dakota History Conference

continued from page 1

at the Civic Center. Former U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan will be the keynote speaker for the banquet. The awards presentation will follow the banquet.

The two-day conference will examine the many challenges and opportunities water has presented over the years. There will be presentations on surface geology, the history of water use and its impact on settlement and people, as well as aspects of the history of water legislation and regulation in North Dakota.

Other featured speakers include former Governor Allen Olson, who will discuss his life-long involvement with water impacts, issues, and regulations; Michael Dwyer, Executive Vice President of the North Dakota Water Users Association, who will chair a discussion of the history of North Dakota's water use; American Indian relations specialist and retired National Park Service official Gerard Baker, who will speak about the impacts of too much and too little water on native peoples; and North Dakota State University (NDSU) Professor of Geology Don Schwert, who will help conference attendees understand how the surface geology of North Dakota influences water movement.

Other speakers will include Adjutant General and former State Engineer David Sprynczynatyk, former Assistant Attorney General and longtime water issues attorney Murray Sagsveen, NDSU Professor of History Mark Harvey, NDSU Associate Professor of Architecture Steve Martens, University of North Dakota Associate Professor of History Kimberly Porter, and *Grand Forks Herald* Editor and Publisher Mike Jacobs. The scheduling of additional speakers is still underway.

Also offered Friday will be an all-day workshop, "Storing and Preserving Still Photographic Materials Collections," presented by Dianna Clise, paper conservator for the Midwest Art Conservation Center (MACC) in Minneapolis. She will provide hands-on experience in the identification of various types of negatives and prints, using MACC's extensive photographic study collection, and information on how to identify the causes of deterioration in photographic materials, the types of damages, proper exhibition and storage materials, and a brief discussion on digitizing photographic materials collections.

For information on the Governor's History Conference, email SHSND Administrative Assistant Kiri Stone at kstone@nd.gov or call at 701.328.2799. Registration is required, and fees include lunch. Student rates are available. Registration will be available beginning in mid-July, online at <http://history.nd.gov/conference>, as well as through the mail.



Photograph by Kiri Stone, SHSND

The North Dakota Heritage Center was bustling with activity June 3 when some 3,000 children and adults participated in *One World, Many Stories*, the Bismarck-Mandan summer reading program kickoff event. Children of all ages explored the world of dinosaurs, puppet shows, ethnic dance shows, celebrity story readers, face painting, and much more. Here, Clifford the Big Red Dog poses for a picture with a youngster not quite sure what to make of Clifford.

New Exhibit Opening *continued from page 1*

North Dakota is home to nearly 200 species of birds and plays host to millions of migrating birds every year. They are attracted to the state's plentiful open space and the diverse habitats that provide breeding grounds, nesting areas, and ample food. The 1,000-square-foot permanent exhibit focuses on birds native to North Dakota. Hundreds of bird specimens, some dating to the mid-1800s, will be on display, including a rare example of the extinct passenger pigeon.

The ever-popular egg collection has been redesigned and will feature a selection of eggs, both North Dakotan and global, that display unique characteristics such as coloration, size, shape, and texture, said SHSND Curator of Exhibits Genia Hesser.

Hunting decoys and stamp art, along with other bird-related artifacts, round out the *Birds of North Dakota*. The exhibit has something for everyone: backyard birdwatchers, adults and children, art enthusiasts, hunters, and expert birders.

The 2009 Legislative Assembly funded *Birds of North Dakota*. To keep costs down, State Historical Society museum staff reused many parts of the old exhibit, including recycling all the glass from the cases. Most of the birds and eggs will also be back, in addition to several new specimens. Andre and Associates of Victoria, British Columbia, have designed and fabricated an exhibit that not only fits in the Heritage Center's current main gallery, but will easily reconfigure into a new location. Eventually, the exhibit will be located between the Geologic Time Gallery and the Early Peoples Gallery in the Sheyenne River Hallway of the expanded North Dakota Heritage Center. This location will show the relationship of birds to dinosaurs, and the relationship of birds to early humans in our region, said SHSND Museum Director Chris Johnson.

North Dakota Heritage Center Expansion Project Moving Ahead



This drawing shows part of the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion being built on the state capitol grounds in Bismarck. This main entrance from the east features the Northern Lights Atrium. The atrium will connect with the *Hub of History*, which will provide tourist information on historic sites and other destinations statewide.

By Claudia Berg

Construction on the \$52 million expansion of the North Dakota Heritage Center has been underway since late March. The project will nearly double the size of the current facility with the addition of 97,000 square feet. Much of the concrete work will occur through the summer, followed by the steel and new walls. Construction will take about two years, continuing into early 2013, followed by the opening of four new exhibit galleries the next two years. Completion is targeted for North Dakota's 125th anniversary of statehood November 2, 2014.

To reinforce the statewide focus in the expansion of the Heritage Center and to emphasize how important the land is to the people of North Dakota, geographic features and regions have been used to name areas of the building.

For photographs of the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion construction project, visit the SHSND's website at www.history.nd.gov and click on Heritage Center Expansion Project.

Beginning in front of the new entrance, at the east end of the expansion, will be the Pembina River Plaza; the three hallways that connect the four exhibit galleries will be the Red River Hall, Sheyenne River Hall, and the Souris

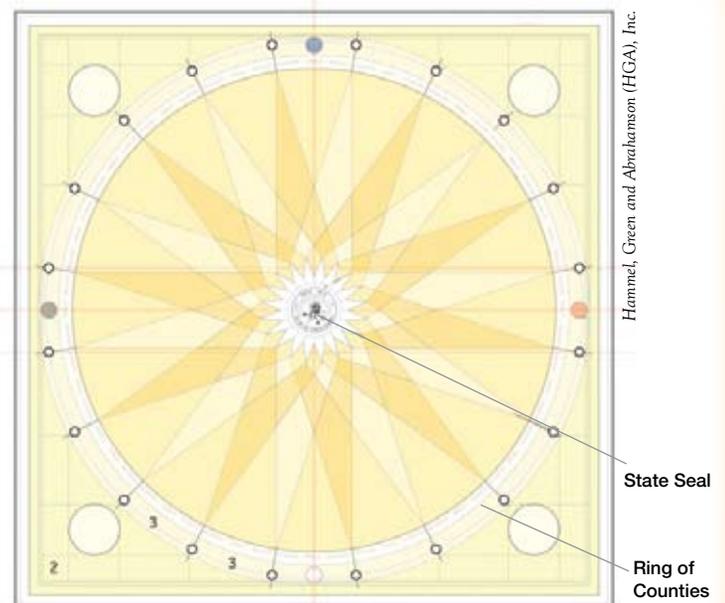
River Hall. The James River Café and Missouri River Event Center, currently the lobby area, will feature new visitor services. The western-most feature of the building, currently the main entrance, will become the Badlands Plaza.

Interpretation of North Dakota's changing environments will begin on the Pembina River Plaza and include a 60-million-year-old petrified tree and a water feature representing prairie pot holes, with several large granite boulders, all remnants of the last glacier 12,000 years ago. A cluster of trees will help tell the story of the human

influence on the landscape.

Additional features will highlight the importance of the four elements of our environment – water, earth, fire, and air. The Great Plains Theater, located in the new lobby, will serve as an anchor in the geographic landscape while the Northern Lights Atrium gives reference to the skies. Located in the floor, in the center of the atrium, will be a large backlit glass circle resembling a hearth, the center of a home. The circle carries the Great Seal of the State of North Dakota. The star pattern in the floor is a nod to both a nighttime star and the sunburst of day.

The floor of the Northern Lights Atrium will emphasize the statewide representation by also featuring a circle with North Dakota's 53 county names embedded in the floor.



The floor of the Northern Lights Atrium will feature a circle with North Dakota's 53 county names and the State Seal.

Exhibits, Programs Statewide

State Historic Sites Now Open for Season

By Deborah K. Hellman

New exhibits and popular programs await visitors to the historic sites managed by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND). Many sites opened for the visitors' season May 16 and will remain open through September 15; other sites are open year-round. A wide variety of entertaining and educational opportunities can be found at historic sites statewide.

At **Fort Totten State Historic Site**, visitors will find a new exhibit gallery and museum store. The new exhibit, *Encountering Fort Totten*, offers visitors the opportunity to choose a self-guided tour following one of four individuals, experiencing life at Fort Totten as that person might have lived it. Visitors can choose between following a frontier army soldier, a young female Chippewa student, a teacher, or a young male Dakota (Sioux) student. Site staff will host Fort Totten's 19th Annual Living History Field Day in September, giving area students the opportunity to learn about life at the fort and, later, boarding school.

The **Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site** near Cooperstown is the newest addition to the sites managed by the state's history agency. The Cold War Era

site was once a restricted area and fascinates visitors to its two locations at Oscar-Zero and November 33. The imposing security gates set the tone for what visitors will find when exploring this site. Recipient of the 2010 Governor's Travel and Tourism Award, it explores the significance of missile installations in the culture and history of North Dakota, as well as the state's role in international relations. It will also be one of the area sites hosting an August 4-6 reunion of 321st Strategic Missile Wing veterans.

Throughout the summer, *History Alive!* performances featuring portrayals of the *Marquis de Mores* and his wife *Medora, the Madame de Mores*, as well as the 1880s editor of the *Bad Lands Cow Boy* newspaper, *A.T. Packard*, Missouri River steamboat captain *Grant Marsh*, and buffalo hunter *Yellowstone Vic Smith* will once again entertain visitors at the **Chateau de Mores State Historic Site** in Medora. Seniors and children again have the chance to participate in special weekly *Living History Tours* throughout the summer, while visitors of all ages can enjoy the September 3-4 *Concerts at the Chateau* featuring country and western singer Greg Hager of Valley City. While visiting the Chateau, don't forget to check out the Interpretive Center's popular temporary exhibits, *Great Photographs of World War II*, and *North Dakota Remembers World War II*, presenting photographs and stories of North Dakotans from all branches of the military.

At the **Pembina State Museum**, the SHSND-produced exhibit *Lincoln's Legacy in North Dakota*, commemorating the bicentennial birthday of the 16th President, continues to help visitors see the many connections between Abraham

Lincoln and what was then Dakota Territory, now North Dakota. The 17th Annual *Gingras Day!* celebration at **Gingras Trading Post State Historic Site** August 3 will celebrate Métis culture and the 19th Century fur trade era, as it is held in conjunction with the Annual Art and Heritage Festival in Walhalla.

At the site known as the "Gateway to the Dakotas," **Fort**

Photograph by Genia Hesser, SHSND



Photograph by Jessie Reinke, SHSND



Visitors enjoy the new exhibit at Fort Totten State Historic Site. Also shown is a tipi at the center of the new exhibit gallery featuring the story of the Dakota (Sioux) people in the Devils Lake area.

Abercrombie State Historic Site, the interpretive center exhibit *Beyond the Boundaries: The History of Fort Abercrombie* features the history of the fort's mission guarding vital transportation routes and serving as a military supply point from 1858 to 1877.

Fort Buford State Historic Site will come to life as it hosts the 29th Annual Fort Buford 6th Infantry Frontier Military Encampment August 20-21. The site will also welcome the great-grandson of Sitting Bull, Ernie LaPointe, who will speak during the July 17 educational program *The 130th Anniversary of Sitting Bull's Surrender*. The program will also feature the dedication of a Sitting Bull pictograph and other events in conjunction with related programming at Williston State College, which will include the unveiling on the college campus of a heroic-sized bronze statue of the Lakota (Sioux) chief-tain and medicine man, sculpted by western artist Michael Westergard of Plentywood, Montana. The nearby **Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center** will be busy hosting *History Alive!* and a variety of other performances and concerts.

Although well into construction of the \$52 million expansion of the **North Dakota Heritage Center**, the **State Museum** and **State Archives** remain open, and new exhibits will be available for visitors to enjoy. Opening the beginning of July, *The Birds of North Dakota* will be a permanent fixture in the museum as an updated version of its popular predecessor. See the story on page one. Developed by the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian and the Smithsonian Institution's Traveling Exhibition Services, *Native Words, Native Warriors* will open August 8, telling the story of soldiers from more than a dozen tribes who used their Native languages while serving in the U.S. military. The popular exhibit, *Dakota: A Mummified Dinosaur*, featuring portions of this "dinomummy," continues to fascinate visitors, revealing 67-million-year-old secrets about how dinosaurs looked and behaved.

Also in Bismarck, the **Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site** will feature several programs, including the popular *Annual Ice Cream Social* August 14. The recently restored Northern Pacific Railroad steam locomotive and shelter will be dedicated July 9 at the former military camp and U.S. Weather Bureau Station, **Camp Hancock State Historic Site** in Bismarck, with musical entertainment and children's games providing a festive backdrop to the dedication ceremonies.

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

Expansion Shuffle

Photograph by Claudia Berg, SHSND



This spring's demolition of the North Dakota Heritage Center's exterior walls impacted the North Dakota Geological Survey's paleontology lab, forcing its relocation to other areas of the building. Two offices were moved to the

State Archives, and a third office and the lab were shifted to the Heritage Center Museum Store storage area. Also, two public meeting rooms are now being used as Museum Store storage space. These moves will remain in place until early 2013, when expansion construction is scheduled for completion. Above, from left, SHSND Administrative Assistant Erica Tang and Editor Kathy Davison help Sales Associate Donna Schaffnit

move store merchandise. (right) SHSND staff help the paleontology staff relocate the extraordinary dinosaur fossil nicknamed "Dakota" April 26. Helping move the nearly four-ton body of the



67-million-year-old fossil are, from left, Claudia Berg, Amanda Person, Len Thorson, Jeff Person, Tim Stock, John Hoganson, Becky Gould (in doorway), Chris Johnson, and Mike Frohlich.

Photograph by Brian R. Austin, SHSND

We Appreciate Your Patience

Due to the expansion construction work at the North Dakota Heritage Center, access to museum work spaces and artifact storage areas will be extremely limited until early 2012 and possibly longer. This is resulting in an unfortunate, yet necessary, limitation of museum-related public services by the SHSND's Museum Division, such as accepting new acquisitions, artifact loans to other museums, and providing access to museum collections by researchers and visitors. The museum exhibits will continue to be open to visitors throughout this time, and as always are free of charge. We appreciate your patience during this exciting time.

Paper items and photographs can still be offered to the SHSND's State Archives Division.

Through Labor Day

SHSND in Program Offering Free Admission to Military

The state's history agency is taking part in a national program called Blue Star Museums, offering free admission to all active-duty military personnel, and five of their immediate family members, at its five state historic sites that usually charge admission. The program began Memorial Day, May 30 and continues through Labor Day, September 5. In addition, the State Historical Society of North Dakota's (SHSND) museum stores statewide are offering to the military personnel a 10 percent discount on all items purchased in the stores during this time.

The five participating sites are the **Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site** near Cooperstown, **Chateau de Mores State Historic Site** in Medora, **Fort Buford State Historic Site** near Williston, **Fort Totten State Historic Site** near Devils Lake, and **Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site** near Fargo. There also is free admission to the **Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center** near Williston, and the seven-story high observation tower overlooking the Red River Valley at the **Pembina State**

Museum. The museum stores are located at the **North Dakota Heritage Center** in Bismarck, the **Pembina State Museum, Fort Abercrombie, Fort Totten, the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile Site, the Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, the Chateau de**



Mores, Gingras Trading Post State Historic Site near Walhalla, and the **Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site** in Bismarck.

The free admission program is available to active duty military personnel and their immediate family members (military ID holder and five immediate family members). Active-duty military include Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and active-duty

National Guard and active-duty Reserve members.

The Blue Star Museums program is a partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and more than 1,300 museums throughout the nation. The complete list of participating museums is available at www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums. The effort to recruit museums has involved the partnership efforts of the American Association of Museums, the Association of Art Museum Directors, the Association of Children's Museums, and the American Association of State and Local History.

Museums that wish to participate in Blue Star Museums should contact bluestarmuseums@arts.gov or Wendy Clark at 202.682.5451.

Blue Star Families is a national, non-partisan, nonprofit network of military families from all ranks and services, including Guard and Reserve, with a mission to support, connect, and empower military families. Membership includes military spouses, children, and parents, as well as service members, veterans, and civilians. To learn more, visit www.bluestarfam.org.

Cultural Heritage Grant Funds Available

By Amy Munson

The 2011 North Dakota Legislative Assembly authorized \$504,500 to the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) for the Cultural Heritage Grant Program. This popular grant program has been administered by the SHSND since it was created by the 2003 Legislative Assembly and provides grant funding for local museums and historical societies.

Cultural Heritage Grants provide funding for exhibits, a special project or event, education activities, collections, and capital improvements. The 2011-13 biennium will have two grant rounds, one in 2011 and a second round in 2012. The 2011 announcement of available funds will be made in July. Interested eligible organizations that have a project they wish to be considered for an award should thoroughly read the guidelines and submit an application to the SHSND.

Also available through the Cultural Heritage Fund program are Heritage Training Scholarships and the North

Dakota Museum Assessment Program (NDMAP).

Heritage Training Scholarships are available for local and county historical society staff members to participate in training opportunities. Each individual can apply for any number of scholarships throughout the 2011-13 biennium, though the total amount awarded cannot exceed \$2,000 per individual. Scholarships will be 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. It is a \$10,000 matching grant with about half to be used to hire a peer reviewer and the other half to complete a project.

The 2011 Cultural Heritage Grant application will be available beginning Friday, July 1 on the SHSND's website at www.history.nd.gov, or can be requested by contacting SHSND Grants and Contracts Officer Amy Munson at 701.328.3573 or email amunson@nd.gov.

Legislature Approves 2011-13 Budget; Review of Other 2011 Session Highlights

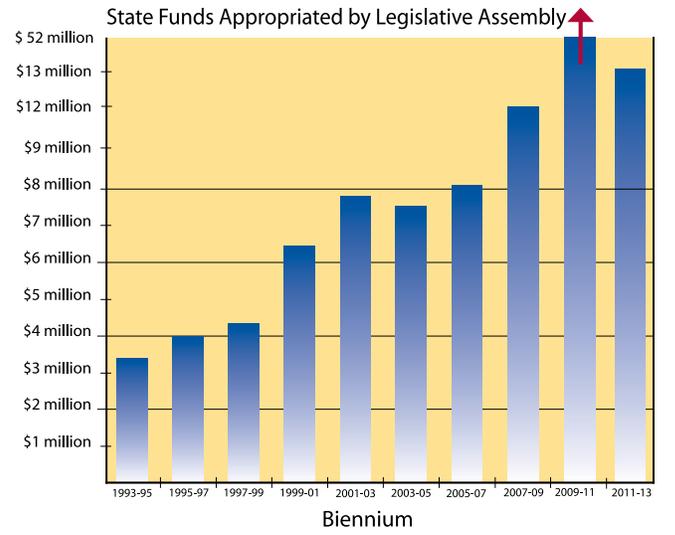
By Rick Collin

The State Historical Society of North Dakota's (SHSND) budget for the 2011-13 biennium has been approved by the North Dakota Legislature, which adjourned April 28. The agency's budget for the new biennium (see graph) is \$16.6 million for the two-year cycle, of which \$13 million comes from state funds and the rest from federal sources.

Highlights from the 2011 Legislative Assembly include:

- \$504,500 in state funds for cultural heritage grants to local historical societies, organizations, and attractions.
- \$350,000 in state funds and \$650,000 in federal funds to provide bank stabilization at Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site. The site is located along the outside bend of the Red River. Structures have had to be relocated to avoid falling into the river. Repairs at various sites, including Fort Totten State Historic Site, were funded with an additional \$125,000.
- \$125,000 to develop new North Dakota Studies curriculum for eighth grade students and educators.
- \$90,000 for exhibits at various state historic sites, including Fort Rice, Fort Totten, and Whitestone Hill.
- \$75,000 in state funds for enhanced SHSND marketing of historic sites and the expanded North Dakota Heritage Center.
- \$50,000 to begin planning for North Dakota's 125th anniversary of statehood in 2014, culminating with the grand opening of the expanded North Dakota Heritage Center on Statehood Day November 2, 2014.

State Historical Society of ND



The SHSND is the lead planning agency for the 125th anniversary celebration.

- \$30,900 for one-time Information Technology Department costs to reduce vulnerability to loss of important data by improving technology.
- One full-time SHSND employee position, effective the second year of the biennium. The position is to help with the greatly expanded exhibit space in the newly expanded North Dakota Heritage Center.
- The Legislative Assembly also approved legislation determining that North Dakota state flags, when purchased by the state or local political subdivisions, must adhere to official design and color standards provided by the SHSND.



Shown here are students who participated in the National History Day in North Dakota state competition April 8 at the North Dakota Heritage Center. Several



advanced to the national contest at the University of Maryland June 12-16, where top prizes include college scholarships. This year's theme was

Debate and Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences. At far left are State History Day Coordinator and SHSND Curator of Education Erik Holland and First Lady Betsy Dalrymple; at far right is Secretary of State and State Historical Board member Al Jaeger.

Photograph by Sharon Silengo, SHSND

Memorials, Tributes, Donors Honored in New Electronic Kiosk

A new state-of-the-art addition to the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck recognizes supporters and donors, honors fallen Peace Officers, and preserves the memory of thousands of North Dakotans.

The Hall of Honors Electronic Kiosk was unveiled April 29 by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) Foundation. It is a 32-inch touch screen located in the lower level of the North Dakota Heritage Center. Visitors can navigate between screens that provide the history of the Heritage Center expansion project and its donors, list Foundation Trustees, and present the Peace Officer Memorials and the Heritage Family Memorials.

The North Dakota Peace Officer Memorial Program honors fallen officers with highlights of their lives and careers.

The North Dakota Heritage Family and Funeral Home Memorials screen is sponsored by the North Dakota Funeral Directors Association. It presents life stories of deceased North Dakotans who were provided services by 12 funeral homes statewide. They are Buehler-Larson Funeral Home and Weigel Funeral Homes, both of Mandan; Eastgate Funeral Services and Parkway Funeral Service, both of Bismarck; Everson Funeral Home, Williston; Fulkerson Funeral Homes in Tioga, Watford City, and Williston; Lisko Funeral Home, Jamestown; Myers Funeral Home, Linton; Nero Funeral Home, Bottineau; and Thomas Family Funeral Home, Minot.

“Our personal history is important, as is the history of our loved ones,” said Virginia Nelsen, executive director

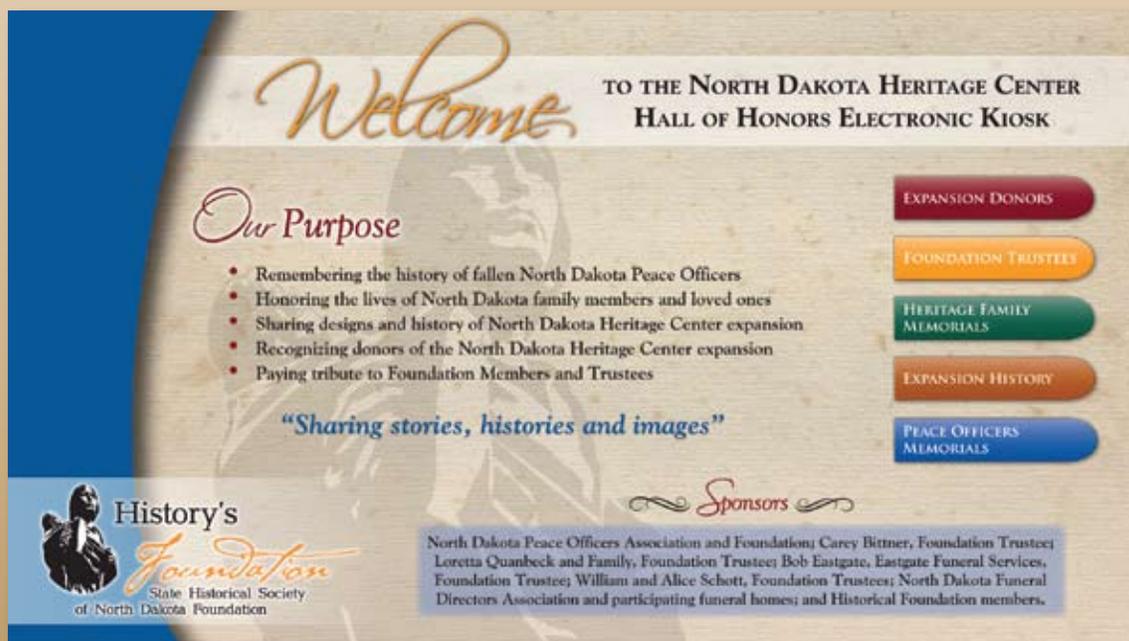
of the SHSND Foundation. “Through this memorial program, these life stories will always be remembered.”

Nelsen praised the work of longtime Foundation volunteers Lawrence Klemer, Dolores Boint, and Verlyn Larson, who along with Foundation staff Diane Wolberg and Kris Hockett, have been the team that has managed the successful memorial program. “Records come in from funeral homes to Wolberg, they are formatted and printed by Klemer, edited and archived by Boint and Larson, and mailed out by Hockett,” said Nelsen. “This seamless effort has processed more than 6,000 memorials over the last five years. The Foundation is very grateful for the hundreds and hundreds of hours donated by our volunteers to this very important program.”

Nelsen says the database for the kiosk will be constantly updated as new memorials and donor information are received. It was developed by Vision Technology of Bismarck, which builds memorial kiosks for veterans groups across the country.

In addition to the North Dakota Peace Officers Association and Foundation, the North Dakota Funeral Directors Association, and SHSND Foundation members, other sponsors of the Hall of Honors Electronic Kiosk are the following Foundation Trustees: Carey Bittner, Loretta Quanbeck and family, Bob Eastgate, and William and Alice Schott, all of Bismarck.

For more information, contact Nelsen or Foundation Development Director Marlo Sveen at 701.222.1966 or visit www.statehistoricalfoundation.com.



Service Clubs Step Up in Big Way to Support Heritage Center Expansion

The success of the SHSND Foundation, and especially our Heritage Center Expansion Campaign, has been due to the legions of people who have stepped forward in support of preserving North Dakota's history.

At the grassroots level, we have been fortunate to have as partners the members of North Dakota's service clubs. The positive impact that service clubs have in their communities can't be adequately measured. Likewise, we are benefiting in many ways from their support of the Heritage Center expansion.

Our History's Heroes program is one where, because of the grassroots contacts they have across the state, the assistance of service club members is especially valuable. In this program we are seeking 10 families or communities in every North Dakota county to donate \$10,000. They will be recognized in the Legislative Hall of Honors in the newly expanded Heritage Center. For each History's Hero, a family or community history will be preserved in an adjacent information kiosk.

To date some 40 individuals and the communities of Stanley, Portal, Lignite, Powers Lake, and Casselton have made History's Heroes pledges. This is a strong beginning to what is proving to be a meaningful way for North Dakotans to both support the expansion and pay tribute to their families and communities.



Virginia A. Nelsen,
SHSND Foundation
Executive Director

The North Dakota Lions Clubs have been on board for several years. North Dakota Lions Bruce Schwartz, a past director of Lions International, and Chuck and Janet Esser, all of Bismarck, have stepped forward to help coordinate the statewide History's Heroes effort with service clubs. Their Bismarck Lions Club has donated club and personal funds for a History's Heroes donation.

In 2008 every Lions Club in North Dakota was encouraged to commit \$100 a year for five years to support the Heritage Center expansion. Many clubs have given more. The Stanley Lions Club, thanks to the generosity of longtime resident and Lion Stan Wright, has made Stanley a History's Heroes Legacy Community.

Joining in the Foundation's History's Heroes effort have been fellow Lions Bill Schott of Bismarck, Mike Gustafson of Kindred, and Larry Mettler of Mandan, who have given History's Heroes presentations to clubs throughout the state.

Other service clubs in the state have shown an interest in supporting our expansion efforts. We look forward to working with them, and any other interested state organizations, in making our ongoing Heritage Center expansion fundraising a true grassroots effort.

For more information on the History's Heroes program, contact Consultant Bill Schott at 701.391.5611, Executive Director Virginia Nelsen or Development Director Marlo Sveen at 701.222.1966 or Consultant Andrea Collin at 701.355.4458.

Written by Andrea Collin and Bill Schott, SHSND Foundation Consultants



Photograph by SHSND Foundation

Several regional Lions Club members pose near the North Dakota Heritage Center April 29 as it undergoes expansion construction. From left is Alice Schott, SHSND consultant Bill Schott, Dave Charles, District Five Northwest Lions Governor Bev Charles, former director of Lions International Bruce Schwartz, all of Bismarck; president of the Mandan Dakotah Lions Club Arlen Fetch, and District Five Northeast Lions Governor Robert Littlefield, Moorhead, Minnesota.



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



Photograph by Brian R. Austin, SHSND

Several Bismarck-Mandan Lions pose in front of the North Dakota Heritage Center expansion model at the SHSND Foundation's legislative reception January 6. From left are Kay Link, Bruce Schwartz, Bruce Hagen, Janet Esser, Chuck Esser, Addie Thiede, Harlan Thiede, Lois Hartman, and Renee Loh.



Marlo Sveen,
SHSND Foundation
Director of Development

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

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 4-September 4

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

June 14-August 17

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

June 23

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

June 25

Aber Day, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., featuring period music, 19th Century and American Indian games for children, military drills, and living history demonstrations, Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

June 25-26

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

June 27

Junior Soldiers' Club Reading Program, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Children of all ages welcome to hear interpretive specialist Barb Myhre read the book *The Gift of the Sacred Dog* by Paul Goble. The group will also do a variety of craft projects and play American Indian games, Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

JULY

July 1-31

Artist of the Month program featuring North Dakota Scenes, a photography display by

Rebecca Helm of Ray, North Dakota. Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

July 1

Birds of North Dakota exhibit opening, main gallery of the State Museum, North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck, 701.328.2666. See story on page one.

July 2

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

July 3-4

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

July 4

Historic Fourth of July celebration, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., including patriotic readings, military drill program, and lemonade toasts to Independence Day, Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

July 8

State Historical Board Summer Meeting, 11:30 a.m., International Peace Garden.

July 9

Dedication of restored Northern Pacific Railroad steam locomotive and its shelter, 12 Noon to 4 p.m. Musical entertainment, speakers, children's games, Camp Hancock State Historic Site, 701.328.9528.

July 9-10

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

July 11

Junior Soldiers' Club Reading Program, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Children of all ages welcome to hear interpretive specialist Barb Myhre read the book *Mystic Horse* by Paul Goble. The group will also do a variety of craft projects and play American Indian games, Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

July 14

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.

July 16-17

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

July 16-17

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

July 17

Concert at the Confluence, 2 p.m., featuring *Cheaper Than Therapy* from Jamestown, North Dakota, a registered quartet of Sweet Adelines International, singing a cappella harmony, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

July 17

The 130th Anniversary of Sitting Bull's Surrender, 4 p.m., speaker Ernie LaPointe, great-grandson of Sitting Bull, and dedication of Sitting Bull pictograph, Fort Buford State Historic Site, 701.572.9034.

July 18

Junior Soldiers' Club Reading Program, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Children of all ages welcome to hear interpretive specialist Barb Myhre read the book *Buffalo Woman* by Paul Goble. The group will also do a variety of craft projects and play American Indian games, Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

July 23

Quilting at the Confluence, 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.

July 23-24

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

July 23-24

Blacksmithing and Historic Craft Weekend, Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

July 25

Junior Soldiers' Club Reading Program, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Children of all ages welcome to hear interpretive specialist Barb Myhre read the book *My Prairie Christmas* by Paul Goble. The group will also do a variety of craft projects and play American Indian games. Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

July 30

Killdeer Mountain History Hike. Take a guided hike to the top of Killdeer Mountain and hear about the 1864 Battle of Killdeer Mountain and the Medicine Hole. For more, call Chris Johnson at 701.328.2124.

July 30-31

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

AUGUST

August 1-31

Artist of the Month program featuring art and photography displays by Pat Cundiff and Linda Severson, both of Sidney, Montana, Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

August 1

Junior Soldiers' Club Reading Program, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Children of all ages welcome to hear interpretive specialist Barb Myhre read the book *The Friendly Wolf* by Paul Goble. The group will also do a variety of craft projects and play American Indian games, Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

August 3

17th Annual Gingras Day! celebration at the Gingras Trading Post State Historic Site. This year's event will again be held in conjunction with the Annual Art and Heritage Festival at Riverside Park in Walhalla. Events at Gingras Trading Post will celebrate Métis culture and the 19th Century fur trade era. This year's Arts and Heritage Festival will focus on art. All events are free and open to the public, 701.825.6840.

August 4-6

321st Strategic Missile Wing Reunion, activities in Grand Forks, Cooperstown, and at the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site. Sponsored by the State Historical Society of North Dakota and the Friends of Oscar-Zero. Registration required by June 30, 701.797.3691.

August 6-7

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

August 6-7

Garrison Weekend, featuring frontier military reenactors' encampment, public demonstrations, and other living history programs, Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

August 8

Junior Soldiers' Club Reading Program, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Children of all ages welcome to hear interpretive specialist Barb Myhre read the book *Adopted by Eagles* by Paul Goble. The group will also do a variety of craft projects and play American Indian games, Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

August 9

SHSND Foundation Board meeting, 1:30 p.m., North Dakota Heritage Center.

August 11

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.

August 13-14

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

August 14

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

August 15

Junior Soldiers' Club Reading Program, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Children of all ages welcome to hear interpretive specialist Barb Myhre read the book *Iktomi and the Boulder* by Paul Goble. The group will also do a variety of craft projects and play American Indian games, Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site, 701.553.8513.

August 20

Quilting at the Confluence, 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.

August 20-21

29th Annual Fort Buford 6th Infantry Frontier Military Encampment, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Be at Fort Buford as it comes to life as the 6th Infantry Regiment Association fills the barracks and parade ground. Also featuring a *Kids Carnival*, Fort Buford State Historic Site, 701.572.9034.

August 20-21

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

August 21

Celebrate Madame de Mores 155th birthday! Cake and coffee served in the Interpretive Center, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. (MT). The *Madame de Mores* will be at the center, mingling with visitors, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

August 27-28

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

August 27-28

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

August 28

Whitestone Hill Battlefield afternoon public program, featuring the award-winning cowboy/western artist T. J. Casey from Billings, Montana. Brad Tennant, associate professor

of history and Wein Gallery director at Presentation College in Aberdeen, South Dakota, will give a presentation entitled "The 1863 and 1864 Military Expeditions of General Alfred Sully" during the music intermission, 701.328.3508.

SEPTEMBER

September 3-4

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

September 8

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.

September 8-11

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

September 10

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

September 11

Flag retreat at Fort Buford State Historic Site, marking shift to winter hours, 2 p.m. Winter hours, which take effect September 16, are Wednesday-Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m., through May 14, 701.328.9034.

September 12

19th Annual Living History Field Day, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free public admission, \$2/student materials fee. Student registration required. Sponsored with the Fort Totten State Historic Site Foundation, Fort Totten State Historic Site, 701.766.4441.

September 15

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

September 16

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

September 17

Quilting at the Confluence, 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.

September 28-October 1

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

OCTOBER

October 13

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

October 14

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

October 14

North Dakota State Genealogical Society fall meeting, 1 p.m., North Dakota Heritage Center, 701.328.2668.

October 15

Quilting at the Confluence, 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.

October 22

Cemetery Walk, 7 to 9 p.m. Visit with some "ghostly" former residents of Fort Buford during an evening walk through the old fort cemetery, followed by refreshments. Tours starting every half-hour. Family friendly activity. Fort Buford State Historic Site and Missouri-Yellowstone Confluence Interpretive Center, 701.572.9034.

October 28

Halloween Grand Ball at the Mansion, 6 to 10 p.m. Anyone under the age of 16 must have a parent or guardian in attendance. Costume required. Former Governors' Mansion State Historic Site, 701.328.9528.

October 28

State Historical Society of North Dakota Foundation annual meeting, 12 p.m., Bismarck Civic Center, 701.222.1966.

October 28-29

23rd Annual Governor's Conference on North Dakota History, Too Much or Too Little: The Story of Water in North Dakota, Bismarck Civic Center. See story on page one.

October 29

Ghost Stories and Halloween Party at the Chateau. 2 p.m. Don Elhi will tell ghost stories to the children from the Billings County schools as part of a Halloween party at the Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center. Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

October 29

Halloween Fun, children's activities and games from 2 to 4 p.m., Pembina State Museum, 701.825.6840.

October 31

A Night in Our Museum, Chateau de Mores Interpretive Center. Tour starts at 6:30 p.m. (MT) in the upper Chateau parking lot. There will be historic spirits to enhance the experience, and the Interpretive Center will reopen following the tour for ghostly treats. Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, 701.623.4355.

North Dakota Heritage Center, Bismarck

Dakota: A Mummified Dinosaur

Museum Entrance

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

Birds of North Dakota

Main Gallery

Permanent Exhibit

Opening July 1

North Dakota is home to almost 200 species of birds. Each year,
the state also plays host to millions of migrating birds, which
stop to rest and eat on their journeys along the central flyway
of North America. The *Birds of North Dakota* exhibit has been
a visitor favorite since the State Historical Society was located
in the Liberty Memorial building on the state capitol grounds. It
was one of the first exhibits installed, by popular demand, after
the new North Dakota Heritage Center opened in 1981. Mu-
seum staff knew that an expanded Heritage Center had to have
some version of the *Birds of North Dakota* exhibit, but the current
display needed to be updated. Legislative funding in the 2009-11
biennium allowed the project to move forward. Hundreds of bird
specimens will be on display, including a rare example of the ex-
tinct passenger pigeon, in addition to bird-related artifacts such
as hunting decoys and stamp art.

Native Words, Native Warriors

Lobby, Mezzanine, and Hallway

Opens August 8 through September 16

This exhibit, developed by the Smithsonian’s National Museum
of the American Indian and the Smithsonian Institution’s Travel-
ing Exhibition Service (SITES), tells the remarkable story of
soldiers from more than a dozen tribes who used their Native
languages while in service in the U.S. military. The military
first enlisted American Indians to relay messages in their Native
languages during World War I. These encoded messages proved
undecipherable by the enemy and helped achieve victory. The
involvement of the code talkers expanded during World War II.
Through oral histories taken from the veterans themselves, this
exhibit celebrates and honors this important but little-reported
aspect of American history.

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Gardening in North Dakota

James E. Sperry Gallery

Through November 6

Short growing seasons and cold winters have always challenged
North Dakota gardeners. From early native Mandan, Hidatsa,
and Arikara gardeners to the modern North Dakota State Uni-
versity extension offices, people have worked to produce fruit
and vegetable varieties that are cold-hardy, fast-growing, and

drought-resistant. This exhibit follows a garden’s progress from
planting, to harvest, and finally preservation. Historic garden
implements and original seed catalogs are featured.

Creating Sakakawea

James E. Sperry Gallery

Opens November 11 through September 30, 2012

More than 100 years ago, the North Dakota Federation of Wom-
en’s Clubs decided to recognize Sakakawea by erecting a statue
in her honor on the North Dakota Capitol grounds. In 2003 a
replica of this statue was placed in the National Statuary Hall
in the United States Capitol, in Washington, D.C. as part of
the state’s commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.
For over 200 years Sakakawea has fascinated the American pub-
lic, becoming a symbol variously for women’s suffrage, manifest
destiny, and most recently American Indian cultural inclusivity.
She is a blend of legend and mythology balanced on a narrow
foundation of historical fact. This exhibit explores both the stat-
ue’s history and what Sakakawea has meant to different people
at different times in history.

Corridor of Time

Main Gallery

Permanent Exhibit

This exhibit depicts what life was like in North Dakota millions
of years ago. One area, completed in December 2006, explores
the Late Cretaceous (about 65 million years ago) and early Pa-
leocene (about 60 million years ago) periods – a time when the
region’s climate and environment resembled that of the Florida
Everglades. An expanded section, which opened in December
2008, depicts life and geology of the Paleozoic Era (250 to 540
million years ago), through the Paleocene and Oligocene Eras
(24 to 34 million years ago). Developed by the State Histori-
cal Society of North Dakota and the North Dakota Geological
Survey.

The USS North Dakota and Nautical North Dakota

Hall of Honors

Permanent Exhibit

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

Recent Acquisitions

Museum Entrance

No Closing Date

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

Pembina State Museum, Pembina

Pembina Today

Permanent Exhibit

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

Lincoln's Legacy in North Dakota

Through February 2012

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

Chateau de Mores State Historic Site, Medora

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

Permanent Exhibit

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

North Dakota Remembers World War II

Through October 2012

Presenting stories of North Dakotans from all branches of the armed forces and their experiences worldwide, *North Dakota Remembers World War II* features a selection of the more than 1,200 interviews collected through the North Dakota Veterans History Project coordinated by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. The exhibit also features World War II-era uniforms, medals, photographs, and other artifacts related to personal experiences in the war.

Great Photographs of World War II

Through October 2012

A display of photographs taken by combat photographers from the Office of War Information and all branches of the U.S. military, *Great Photographs of World War II* documents some of the experiences of veterans of World War II. They were compiled by the Folmer Graflex Corporation in Rochester, New York, manufacturer of the Graflex camera equipment used by combat photographers and in military aircraft.

Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historic Site, near Cooperstown

America's Ace in the Hole: North Dakota and the Cold War

Permanent Exhibit

The Cold War lasted nearly 50 years, and North Dakota's landscape is marked with its legacy. North Dakota's newest state historic site introduces visitors to the state's role in international relations and the significance of missile installations on North Dakota's history and culture. This exhibit features historic photographs, archival images, and an award-winning video. The site also received the 2010 Governor's Travel and Tourism award as the state's outstanding attraction of the year.

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

Trails, Tracks, Rivers and Roads

Permanent Exhibit

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

Life By the Bugle

Permanent Exhibit

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

Emigrants from the Empires: North Dakota's Germans

Through April 2012

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

Fort Totten State Historic Site, near Devils Lake

Encountering Fort Totten

Permanent Exhibit

Immerse yourself in history! Choose between following a soldier, a young female Chippewa student, a teacher, or a teenage male Dakota student as you tour the fort grounds. These four self-guided itineraries will allow you to follow a single individual throughout the fort, experiencing life at Fort Totten as that person might have lived it. All four characters are based on oral histories collected from Spirit Lake tribal members and other 19th and 20th Century accounts. Major new exhibits that opened May 16 in the commissary storehouse building will introduce you to the fort during its time as a military post (1867-90) and boarding school for American Indians (1891-1959). Also included in the new exhibits is a section on the preservation of the fort during the last 50 years by the State Historical Society.

***The Promise of Water:
The Garrison Diversion Project***
Through September 15

A controversial political issue in North Dakota, the idea of diverting Missouri River water for use in North Dakota has passed through many different versions. Wayne Gudmundson's photographs of the Garrison Diversion follow the path of the project from one end to the other, illuminating significant aspects of the project like never before.

**Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site
near Fargo**

***Beyond the Boundaries:
The History of Fort Abercrombie***
Permanent Exhibit

As the "Gateway to the Dakotas," Fort Abercrombie guarded vital transportation routes and served as an important supply point for military campaigns into the Dakota Territory of the 1860s. This exhibit at the interpretive center features this history, including the fort's role in the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862. It includes a mountain howitzer, uniforms, and equipment like those used by soldiers at the fort.

**Former Governors' Mansion State
Historic Site, Bismarck**

From Buckets of Oats to Quarts of Oil
Permanent Exhibit

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

Camp Hancock State Historic Site, Bismarck

The Four Seasons at Camp Hancock
Permanent Exhibit

This exhibit looks at the history of the site through the seasons. The oldest building in Bismarck, this is the only structure remaining from the U.S. Army infantry post stationed here from 1872 to 1877. After it was decommissioned, it served as the U.S. Weather Bureau Station for the region from 1894 to 1939.

Bridges of North Dakota
July 1 through August 28

Crossing valleys, rivers, and other obstacles, bridges knit the people and places of North Dakota together. Bridges tell us about historic travel patterns, engineering advances, and new building materials. Ultimately, bridges are a reflection of their community and the people who built them. This exhibit from the State Historical Society's popular Traveling Interpretive Exhibits for North Dakota (TIES) program, features photographs of bridges from across the state, spanning the time period from 1872 to the present. It was produced in cooperation with the North Dakota Department of Transportation, with federal funding provided by the Federal Highway Administration, North Dakota Division, Bismarck.

Transitions

Erica Tang was promoted to account technician, effective June 6. She had worked as an administrative assistant in the SHSND's support services division since joining the agency in January 2009. Before that, she was employed as a receptionist/lead teller for Capital Credit Union in Bismarck. She was also an office assistant for State Farm Insurance from 2000 to 2004. Tang earned a bachelor of arts degree in business administration from the University of Mary.

Cathy Carlson resigned effective June 5 to accept a position with the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System. She began work as an administrative assistant in 2002. A New Rockford, North Dakota native, she attended high school in Baker, Montana, and has called Bismarck home since 1984. She earned a bachelor of science degree in accounting from Dickinson State University. Carlson also worked in the State Treasurer's Office and served as a bookkeeper and office manager in the construction industry.

Betty Mertz retired effective June 1. She began working for the agency in 1983, dividing her work between the State Archives and the Archaeology and Historic Preservation Division for seven years. Mertz worked as an administrative assistant, maintaining the division's manuscript collections, the North Dakota Cultural Resources Survey site files, and photograph collections in the Archaeology and Historic Preservation Division. She also contributed to the *Picture North Dakota Churches* project of 1998-99.

Craig Wilson began work May 19 as site supervisor at Fort Abercrombie State Historic Site. A Michigan native, Wilson comes to North Dakota from Mackinac State Historic Parks in Michigan. He worked there in a variety of capacities, mostly at Fort Mackinac, including historic interpretation and supervision, educational outreach, and historic research. Wilson earned a master of science degree in industrial archaeology and a bachelor of science degree in anthropology, both from Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Michigan.

SHSND Exhibits

For more 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 **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 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 wrlc@shebbylee-tours.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. The theme is "Currents of Convergence: Making Connections in Big Sky Country." 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.preservation.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 520.621.9607 or email mzedeno@email.arizona.edu.

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's 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.

The **55th Annual Missouri Valley History Conference** will be held March 1-3, 2012 in Omaha, Nebraska. For more information, contact Dr. Jeanne Reames, Program Chair, Department of History, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Omaha, NE 402.554.8359 or email mreames@unomaha.edu.

National Archives



When the United States issued the call to arms in World War I and World War II, American Indians answered as warriors. Some men discovered that words – in their Native languages – would be their most valued weapons. These American heroes share their

stories of strength and courage in a new Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition. *Native Words, Native Warriors* will be featured at the North Dakota Heritage Center from August 8 through September 16. It tells the remarkable story of soldiers from more than a dozen tribes who used their Native languages while in service in the U.S. military. Here, Navajo code talkers Henry Blake and George Kirk are shown in December 1943.

Tipi Time

The SHSND's Curator of Education Erik Holland teaches homeschooled students from the Bismarck-Mandan area history group how to put up a tipi at the North Dakota Heritage Center May 4. The group studied North Dakota history for 10 weeks and visited the Heritage Center and state historic sites in the area. From left is Jordyn Baker, Erik Holland, Ally Baker, Isaac Armstrong, Ethan Schoepp (in sunglasses and cap), and Isaac and Samuel Wisinger.



Photograph by Bonnie T. Johnson, SHSND

TIES

(Traveling Interpretive Exhibits Service)

Bridges of North Dakota

Camp Hancock State Historic Site, Bismarck
July 1 through August 29

The Promise of Water:

The Garrison Diversion Project

Fort Totten State Historic Site, Devils Lake
through September 16

Land in Her Own Name

Dickinson Museum Complex
through August 29

Seeds of Victory

The Pembina County Historical Society, Cavalier
July 1 through October 1

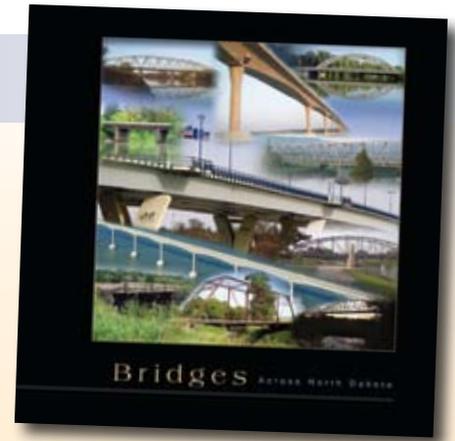
Book Receives National Honors

A beautifully illustrated book about modern and historic bridges in North Dakota, developed by the North Dakota Department of Transportation in partnership with the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) and other organizations, has received a national award from the American Library Association (ALA).

Bridges Across North Dakota has been named to the ALA's Notable Government Documents List of the best state publications for 2010. It is one of only 11 state publications throughout the United States nationally recognized by the ALA.

Primarily an educational tool examining the history, technology, and engineering of bridges in North Dakota, the 151-page coffee-table-sized book features photographs of modern and historic bridges and captures how bridge engineering, technology, styles, and materials have changed over time. Other organizations involved with the development of the book include the Federal Highway Administration and Kadmas, Lee & Jackson, an engineering firm headquartered in Bismarck. Many of the historic photographs in the book are from the collections of the SHSND, which has also been the primary marketer and distributor of the book.

Bridges Across North Dakota retails for \$19.95 plus tax and is available at the North Dakota Heritage Center Museum Store in Bismarck. Order online by visiting www.history.nd.gov/museumstore, or contact Museum Stores Manager Rhonda Brown at 701.328.2822 or email at museumstore@nd.gov.



\$238,000

Grant Awarded to State Historical Society

The State Historical Society of North Dakota has been awarded a \$238,000 grant for work to enhance collections care throughout North Dakota and South Dakota. Partners working on the project include the North Dakota Library Association, the Plains Art Museum in Fargo, the South Dakota State Historical Society, the Association of South Dakota Museums, and the South Dakota State Library.

The two-year **Connection to Collections** implementation grant was awarded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), which is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The project began May 1 and will continue through April 30, 2013.

The intended audience is small-to mid-sized libraries, museums, and archives in North Dakota and South Dakota.

The goal is to enhance collections care throughout the two states. This will be accomplished with regional training and workshops, including three-day collections care workshops in six locations in each state with resource binders provided to all participants; a mutual-aid network to make available assistance and advice across the two states, and follow up with the organizations. Goals for the second year will include completed disaster-preparedness plans for organizations attending the workshops in each state. These basic, practical plans will be widely distributed and serve as model plans for other institutions throughout both states.

For more information, contact State Archivist Ann Jenks at 701.328.2090 or email ajenks@nd.gov.

June 21-25

Western Writers of America Meet in Bismarck



The Western Writers of America (WWA) held its annual convention in Bismarck June 21-25. Conference headquarters were at the Radisson Hotel.

Special events included visits to the North Dakota Heritage Center, Fort Abraham Lincoln, and the On-a-Slant Mandan Indian Village.

The WWA began in 1953, at the beginning of the golden age of television western programming. Founded to promote the literature of the American West, it has since honored distinguished writing in the western field with its annual Spur Awards. The awards, for material published in the past year, are given for works whose inspiration, image, and literary excellence best represent the reality and spirit of the American West.

The WWA has more than 500 members who write everything from mainstream fiction to local history.

Membership is open to any published writer whose subject matter deals with the American West. For more information, visit www.westernwriters.org.

New to the Collections

By Shane Molander

The State Archives at the North Dakota Heritage Center holds a large collection of moving image material dating back nearly 100 years. The film portion of the collection includes eight-, 16-, and 35-millimeter film, and the video collection includes two-inch, one-inch, ¾-inch, ½-inch, and beta, to name a few. The film and video collections have been donated by many individuals, businesses, and state government agencies.

This story features several “captured” images from the State Archives’ moving image collection. These are not photographs but instead moments in the films and videos that have been “captured” to highlight here.

The goal of the State Archives staff is to preserve the historic images from its film and video collections and make them accessible to the public. With the help of volunteers and State Archivist Emeritus Gerald Newborg, the volume of digitized collections has steadily increased during the past year and continues to grow. Newborg has been instrumental in appraising and prioritizing which material is at greatest risk of deteriorating, as well as determining what material is most historically significant. As the State Archives staff works their way through the collections, they often find images they were not aware existed. This makes the digitization process exciting as well as challenging.

The following are a few of the collections that have been digitized:

- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Garrison Dam Construction Films** consist of 58 films or film segments



The film and video storage vault in the State Archives at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck.

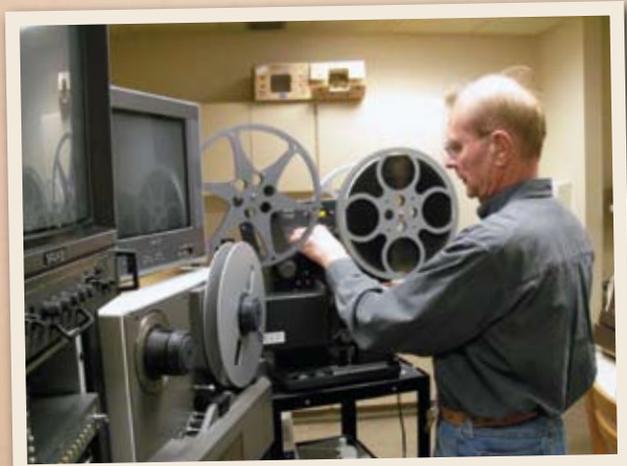
Photograph by Shane Molander, SHSND

produced by or for the Corps of Engineers during the period from 1947 to 1960. The 16-millimeter films range in length from under one-and-one-half minutes to approximately 30 minutes. There is both raw footage and completed films. The completed films, which may hold the most research value, include *Garrison Dam and Reservoir Project*; *Garrison Dam Takes Shape, 1950*; *Garrison Story*; *Garrison on the Missouri, 1950*; *Reservoirs of Recreation*; and *Corps Activities*.

These films provide excellent visuals of the construction of the dam and also demonstrate the extent to which the Corps promoted the project. Other films included in this collection show the town of Sanish on the Fort Berthold Reservation before it was flooded by the dam, as well as aerial shots of the Sanish Bridge.

- The film portion of the **Russell Reid Papers** (MSS 10749) includes footage of the construction of the current state capitol building and, interestingly, the cornerstone ceremony, which occurred twice. The first was with Governor George Shafer in 1932, and the second occurred the following year with Governor William Langer. Apparently the first cornerstone became damaged, and a replacement cornerstone was needed. Other footage from this collection includes scenes from the Badlands, Lake Metigoshe, and fishing and boating on the Missouri River.
- The State Archives hold a large amount of video material donated by **Prairie Public Television**. One of Prairie Public’s popular productions in the late 1970s and early 1980s was the weekly magazine program named **SPIN**, which later became **The Boyd Christianson Interviews**. The program consisted of interviews and discussions about topical interests. There are nearly 100 of the shows known to exist, and all have been digitized.

The digitizing of this film and video collection will take several years to complete. However, with careful appraisal and selection techniques, the State Archives staff strive to assure the safety and preservation of the most valuable portions of this priceless historical resource.



State Archivist Emeritus Gerald Newborg prepares 16-millimeter film for transfer to a digital format.

Photograph by Shane Molander, SHSND

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



This film 'capture' shows the town of Riverdale, North Dakota, built to house the Garrison Dam workers and their families during its construction from 1947 to 1953. The town grew to more than 4,000 residents during peak construction periods.

The North Dakota State Capitol burning in Bismarck, December 28, 1930. The fire was started from a spontaneous combustion of turpentine and varnish-soaked rags, used to prepare for the approaching 1931 session of the Legislative Assembly. Many important state documents were destroyed, including all but one copy of the state constitution, which was rescued by the Secretary of State Robert Byrne, who suffered cuts and burns doing so.



Russell Reid Collection

Prairie Public Television, BCI 301



Baseball legend Roger Maris, who grew up in Grand Forks and Fargo, North Dakota, is interviewed by Boyd Christianson for the Prairie Public Television program, The Boyd Christianson Interviews, in 1981. Among the topics they discussed was 1981 marking the 20th anniversary of Maris's record-breaking campaign, when he hit 61 homers to break Babe Ruth's single-season record.



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The annual three-day Sanish Rodeo drew many contestants and large crowds. It was held each July from 1947 to 1953. The town of Sanish on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation was flooded by the Garrison Dam in the early 1950s.

Russell Reid Collection



Governor George Shafer (hatless) addresses the crowd gathered for the laying of the new state capitol building cornerstone in Bismarck October 8, 1932. To his immediate left is U.S. Vice President Charles Curtis.



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

President Eisenhower shakes a young girl's hand during a welcoming parade in Minot June 10, 1953. He was in North Dakota to attend the dedication of the Garrison Dam. If you happen to know the identity of this girl, contact Rick Collin at 328-1476 or email rcollin@nd.gov.

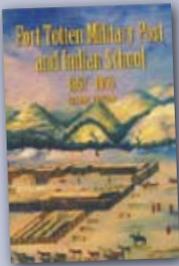


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SOCIETY NEWS



New at Fort Totten

The new Museum Store at Fort Totten State Historic Site near Devils Lake welcomes visitors with a wide array books, hand-crafted items, and gift ideas. Among the items available is *Fort Totten Military Post and Indian School 1867-1959, Second Edition*.

The book retails for \$9.95 and is also available at other historic sites or museums, as well as online at www.history.nd.gov/museumstore or by contacting Museum Stores manager Rhonda Brown at 701.328.2822 or email museumstore@nd.gov.

Photograph by Genia Hesser, SHSND



The new Museum Store at Fort Totten offers a wide variety of items to visitors at the historic site managed by the State Historical Society since 1960.

Plains Talk is published quarterly by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND), North Dakota Heritage Center, 612 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, ND 58505. Telephone 701.328.2666. Website www.history.nd.gov Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr., Director; Richard E. Collin, *Plains Talk* Editor; Deborah K. Hellman, *Plains Talk* Assistant Editor; Kathleen Davison, SHSND Editor; Bonnie T. Johnson, SHSND Assistant Editor. *Plains Talk* is a benefit to members of the SHSND Foundation. Direct correspondence or requests for copies to the editor at the address listed above. This information is available in other formats. Please allow two weeks' lead time.

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Flood Threat



Photograph by Jane Cook

The flood waters of the swollen Missouri River have dramatically impacted the Plains since late May. Here, the Chateau de Mores State Historic Site Interpretive Center (foreground) and the Chateau sit above the flood waters in Medora May 24. The site closed for a few days when high waters from the Little Missouri posed a threat. No water damage was done to either facility, but some damage did occur to the outbuildings located below the Chateau.