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Article Summary: This annotated bibliography includes *Nebraska History* articles on the territorial system and the Kansas-Nebraska Act, government and politics, economic and social development, land acquisition and agriculture, Indians and Indian affairs, military affairs, and the quest for statehood. There are also suggestions for further reading from other sources.

## Other Nebraska History Articles Relating to Nebraska Territory

### **The Territorial System and the Kansas-Nebraska Act**

Main, James C. "Thomas Jefferson Sutherland, Nebraska Boomer, 1851-1852." 34 (September 1953): 181-214. Tells the story of a mysterious individual who published letters and articles promoting the organization and settlement of Nebraska Territory.

### **Government and Politics**

Nueremberger, Ruth K., ed. "Letters from Pioneer Nebraska, by Edward R. Harden, Territorial Judge, 1854-1856." 27 (January-March 1946): 18-46. Letters home from a Georgian appointed to the Nebraska Territorial Supreme Court.

Thavenet, Dennis. "Governor William A. Richardson: Champion of Popular Sovereignty in Territorial Nebraska." 53 (Winter 1972): 463-76. One of the fathers of the Kansas-Nebraska Act whose aggressive leadership as territorial governor sometimes seemed to contradict the doctrine of Popular Sovereignty.

### **Economic and Social Development**

Anderson, Virginia Foote, and Richard E. Jensen, eds. "Enrout for Pikes Peak: The 1860 Travel Diary of Gordon P. Lester." 81 (Spring 2000): 12-22. The journal of an Iowan who traveled across Nebraska to seek gold in the Rocky Mountains. Lester's account of an 1860 trek to the Montana gold fields is the subject of an article listed below.

Barnes, George W. "Pioneer Preacher—An Autobiography." 27 (April-June 1946): 71-91. The recollections of an early Baptist minister in Florence, Cuming City, and Omaha, between 1856 and 1862.

Burke, Marguerette R., ed. "Henry James Hudson and the Genoa Settlement." 41 (September 1960): 201-35. The diary and recollections of a founder of a short-lived Mormon settlement at Genoa, 1857-59.

Camp, Truman W., ed. "The Journal of Joseph Camp, 1859." 46 (March 1965): 29-38. A journey to Omaha by a young Connecticut farmer is recorded in letters he sent home.

Carter, John E. "Photographing Across the Plains: Charles R. Savage in 1865." 71 (Summer 1990): 58-63. The story of the photographer who made the only known photographs of overland emigrants crossing Nebraska.

Danker, Donald F. "The Influence of Transportation upon Nebraska Territory." 47 (June 1966): 187-208. Discusses the natural routes afforded by the Missouri River and the Platte

Valley, and the roles of steamboats, freight wagons, and the railroad.

\_\_\_\_\_. "C. W. Giddings and the Founding of Table Rock." 34 (March 1953): 33-53. Traces the establishment of a Pawnee County town in the 1850s, based on the records of the Nebraska Settlement Company, and highlighting Giddings's role.

Flanagan, Vincent J. "Gouverneur Kemble Warren, Explorer of the Nebraska Territory." 51 (Summer 1970): 171-98. Reviews army engineer Warren's 1855, 1856, and 1857 explorations in Nebraska Territory, including the Sandhills and the Black Hills.

Gaster, Patricia C. "Robert W. Furnas, 'Nebraska Press Recollections,' and the Oldest Newspaper Controversy." 83 (Summer 2002): 89-97. Examines early journalism in Nebraska Territory and the later controversy over which newspaper was entitled to claim the honor of being Nebraska's "oldest," based on continuous publication.

Green, Norma Kidd. "Ghost Counties of Nebraska." 43 (December 1962): 253-63. Reviews the history of Nebraska counties, most from the territorial years, which were never organized, or whose names did not survive.

Grimes, Mary Cochran. "Chief Justice Daniel Gantt of the Nebraska Supreme Court: Letters and Excerpts from His Journal, 1835-1878." 61 (Fall 1980): 281-300. Most documents in this article cover the period from Gantt's arrival in Nebraska in 1857 through 1868, and reflect territorial political and economic development.

Henderson, Paul. "The Story of Mud Springs." 32 (June 1951): 108-19. The story of an important stagecoach, Pony Express, and telegraph station during the 1850s and 1860s.

Homer, Michael W. "After Winter Quarters and Council Bluffs: The Mormons in Nebraska Territory, 1854-1867." 65 (Winter 1984): 467-83. Reviews Mormons' contributions to territorial development, including their outfitting for emigration at Florence and Wyoming.

Keller, Robert H., Jr., ed. "The 1864 Overland Trail: Five Letters from Jonathan Blanchard." 63 (Spring 1982): 71-86. Letters by a Presbyterian minister describe conditions along the trail including the emigration, western personalities, and flora and fauna.

Luebke, Frederick C. "Time, Place, and Culture in Nebraska

History." 69 (Winter 1988): 150-68. Analyzes how the interplay of culture with environment over time has contributed to Nebraska distinctiveness. The article suggests how looking at the past, including the territorial years, is important to understanding Nebraska's modern character.

Mantor, Lyle E. "Stagecoach and Freighter Days at Fort Kearny." 29 (December 1948): 324-38. Discusses Fort Kearny's importance to commerce and communication in Nebraska's Platte Valley before the coming of the railroad.

Martin, Charles W., ed. "A Round Trip to the Montana Mines: The 1866 Travel Journal of Gurdon P. Lester." 46 (December 1965): 273-313. The diary of a man who traveled the Platte River Road by stagecoach to the Montana gold mines and returned down the Missouri River by mackinaw and steamboat.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Herndon House Register, 1865-1866." 48 (Spring 1967): 27-43. A history of this important Omaha hotel, with commentary on the notables who registered there.

\_\_\_\_\_, ed. "Joseph Warren Arnold's Journal of His Trip to and from Montana, 1864-1866." 55 (Winter 1974): 463-552. An account of a wagon trek from Omaha to the Montana gold mines, a two-year sojourn there, and the return journey by steamboat down the Missouri River.

\_\_\_\_\_. "John Ahmanson vs. Brigham Young: A Nebraska Legal Controversy, 1859-1861." 64 (Spring 1983): 1-20. A former Mormon and member of the 1856 handcart expedition sued for wages and for property he claimed the Church had confiscated, prompting a protracted legal battle in the Nebraska courts.

Mattes, Merrill J. and Paul Henderson. "The Pony Express: Across Nebraska from St. Joseph to Fort Laramie." 41 (June 1960): 83-122. A brief history of the Pony Express, with a bibliography and a list of Nebraska stations. Some station locations and identifications have since been updated.

Monaghan, Jay. "Handcarts on the Overland Trail." 30 (March 1949): 3-18. Reviews the origins of the Mormon handcart expeditions from 1856 to 1860, the hardships they encountered, and Florence's role as the jumping off point.

Olson, James C., ed. "From Nebraska City to Montana, 1866: The Diary of Thomas Alfred Creigh." 29 (September 1948): 208-37. An account of a freighting expedition from Nebraska City to the gold mining town of Virginia City, Montana.

Petersen, William J. "Steamboating on the Missouri River." 35 (December 1954): 255-76. Outlines the role of Missouri River steamboats in the development of the West, with focus on Nebraska during the territorial years.

Potter, James E. "Fact and Folklore in the Story of 'John

Brown's Cave' and the Underground Railroad in Nebraska." 83 (Summer 2002): 73-88. Evaluates the history and folklore associated with a Nebraska City site attributed as a station on the Underground Railroad.

Shull, Charles W., ed. "Minutes of Vigilance Committee, Florence, Nebraska, May 29-July 30, 1857." 58 (Spring 1977): 73-87. The minutes of an organization formed to promote "the peace and happiness" of Florence, Nebraska Territory, as kept by the secretary, Henry M. Pomeroy.

Stolley, William. "History of the First Settlement of Hall County." (Special Issue, 1946): 1-90. A translated reprint of Stolley's 1907 history of the origins and development of Grand Island, settled by Germans in 1857.

Wardle, Ralph M. "Territorial Bride." 50 (Summer 1969): 207-28. The story of Emily Greenhow Doane, and her husband, Attorney George W. Doane, who came to Nebraska in 1859.

Wishart, David J. "Age and Sex Composition of the Population on the Nebraska Frontier, 1860-1880." 54 (Spring 1973): 107-19. Uses census records to examine whether the Nebraska population fit the generalization that frontier societies consisted of young adults and children, with single men predominating.

Wyman, Walker D. "Missouri River Steamboatin'." 27 (April-June 1946): 92-103. A summary of what steamboat travel was like, drawn from newspapers and travelers' accounts.

### **Land Acquisition and Agriculture**

Socolosky, Homer. "Land Disposal in Nebraska, 1854-1906: The Homestead Story." 48 (Autumn 1967): 225-48. Examines, in part, land issues, surveying, and settlement during the territorial years.

### **Indians and Indian Affairs**

Chapman, Berlin B. "The Nemaha Half-Breed Reservation." 38 (March 1957): 1-24. This article covers similar ground as the Johansen article published in 1986, but differs in details and provides more information about specific allottees of the lands in the reserve. It concludes with a summary of twentieth-century court decisions on Oto and Missouri compensation claims.

Davies, Phillips G. "David Jones and Gwen Davies, Missionaries in Nebraska Territory, 1853-1860." 60 (Spring 1979): 77-91. The story of a married couple from a Welsh colony in Wisconsin, who served four years as missionaries on the Omaha Reservation.

Green, Norma Kidd. "The Presbyterian Mission to the Omaha Indian Tribe." 48 (Autumn 1967): 267-88. Reviews the history of the Presbyterian mission school established on the Omaha Reservation in 1856.

\_\_\_\_\_. "The Make-Believe White Man's Village." 56 (Summer 1975): 242-47. Briefly summarizes the twenty-year history of a village of log dwellings constructed by Joseph La Flesche's followers on the Omaha Reservation in 1856-57 in an effort to adopt the white man's mode of living.

Jensen, Richard E. "The Oto, Missouri, and Agent Dennison." 59 (Spring 1978): 47-55. Traces the plight of the Oto and Missouri, who were defrauded of their government annuities by Agent William Wallace Dennison in 1861.

McCann, Lloyd E. "The Grattan Massacre." 37 (March 1956): 1-25. The story of the episode near Fort Laramie in 1854 that sparked the Indian Wars on the Plains.

Overton, Daniel W. "Spending the Indians' Money: A Quantitative Case Study of Oto-Missouri Trust Fund Disbursements, 1855-1881." 74 (Summer 1993): 72-81. An overview of government relations with a small Nebraska tribe, focusing on how the government managed funds held in trust for the Indians as payment for ceding most of their Nebraska land.

### **Military Affairs**

Curtis, Earl G. "John Milton Thayer." 28 (October-December 1947): 225-38; 29 (March 1948): 55-68; (June 1948): 134-50. The first installment of this biography covers Thayer's military and political career in Nebraska Territory, including his leadership of the First Nebraska Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War.

Farb, Robert C. "The Military Career of Robert W. Furnas." 32 (March 1951): 18-41. Traces Furnas's role as colonel of an Indian Regiment in 1862 and as commander of the Second Nebraska Cavalry during the 1863 Sully Campaign in Dakota Territory.

Holt, Daniel D. "It . . . Belongs to the Old Regime." Eugene F. Ware Writes From Fort Kearny, 1864." 46 (September 1965): 235-43. An officer in the Seventh Iowa Volunteer Cavalry describes Fort Kearny in a letter to his parents.

McDermott, John D. "'We had a Terribly Hard Time Letting Them Go': The Battles of Mud Springs and Rush Creek, February 1865." 77 (Summer 1996): 78-88. Soldiers from the Eleventh Ohio Volunteer Cavalry defend the Mud Springs telegraph station against attack by Sioux and Cheyennes.

\_\_\_\_\_. "No Small Potatoes': Problems of Food and Health at Fort Laramie, 1849-1859." 79 (Winter 1998): 162-170. Reviews the difficulties of feeding the troops at Fort Laramie, Nebraska Territory, which was typical of other isolated western posts.

Mantor, Lyle E. "Fort Kearny and the Westward Movement." 29 (September 1948): 175-207. Includes a section about the fort's role in guarding the overland trail during the 1850s and 1860s.

Mattes, Merrill J. "Fort Mitchell, Scotts Bluff, Nebraska

Territory." 33 (March 1952): 1-34. Military records and other primary sources outline the history of this temporary military post in the North Platte Valley.

Mattison, Ray H., ed. "The Harney Expedition Against the Sioux: The Journal of Captain John B. S. Todd." 43 (June 1962): 89-130. An eyewitness account of an 1855 military campaign in Nebraska and the resulting Battle of Blue Water, where the army defeated the Brulé Sioux.

Paul, R. Eli, ed. "Battle of Ash Hollow: The 1909-1910 Recollections of General N. A. M. Dudley." 62 (Fall 1981): 373-99. A participant recalls the 1855 Harney Campaign and defeat of Little Thunder's band of Brulés, providing previously unknown details.

\_\_\_\_\_. ed. "A Galvanized Yankee Along the Niobrara River." 70 (Summer 1989): 146-57. The diary of John Colby Griggs, a former Confederate soldier, with the Sawyers Wagon Road expedition of 1865.

Potter, James E. "A Congressional Medal of Honor for a Nebraska Soldier: The Case of Private Francis W. Lohnes." 65 (Summer 1984): 245-56. Lohnes received the Medal for bravery while fighting Indians in the Platte Valley in 1865, the only member of the First Nebraska Volunteers to be so recognized.

\_\_\_\_\_. "A Nebraska Cavalryman in Dixie: The Letters of Martin Stowell." 74 (Spring 1993): 22-31. Letters from a Nebraska Civil War soldier in 1861-62 describe service in Missouri and Tennessee, including the battles at Forts Henry and Donelson.

\_\_\_\_\_. "The First Nebraska's Orphan Detachment and the Skirmish at Grand Prairie, 1864." 81 (Spring 2000): 35-39. Nebraska volunteers left behind in Arkansas are captured during a fight with Confederates.

\_\_\_\_\_. ed. "I Thought It My Duty to Go': The Civil War Letters of Thomas Edwin Keen, First Nebraska Volunteer Infantry." 81 (Winter 2000): 134-69. The First Nebraska regiment's service in Missouri and Tennessee, 1861-63, as told in the letters of a soldier.

Rowen, Richard Dean, ed. "The Second Nebraska's Campaign Against the Sioux." 44 (March 1963): 3-53. The journals and drawings of enlisted men and officers of the Second Nebraska Volunteer Cavalry from the 1863 campaign in Dakota Territory.

### **The Quest for Statehood**

Bakken, Douglas A. "Chronology of Nebraska Statehood." 48 (Spring 1967): 81-90. Lists the important legislative milestones between 1859 and 1867 leading to Nebraska statehood.

### **For Further Reading:**

In addition to the articles appearing in *Nebraska History*, a number of other sources can be recommended on the history of Nebraska Territory.

Danker, Donald F., ed. *Mollie: The Journal of Mollie Dorsey Sanford in Nebraska and Colorado Territories, 1857-1866*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1959. The journal of a young woman telling of her life in Nebraska City and on a farm at the Little Nemaha, her marriage, and her move to the gold-mining region of Colorado.

Lass, William E. *From the Missouri to the Great Salt Lake: An Account of Overland Freighting*. Lincoln: Nebraska State Historical Society, 1972. Details the role of freighting in Nebraska Territory, with emphasis on Nebraska City and Omaha and the firms that operated there.

Lewis, John G. W. and L. E. Aylesworth, eds. and comps. *Messages and Proclamations of the Governors of Nebraska, 1854-1941*. 4 vols. Lincoln: Nebraska State Historical Society, 1942. The first volume of this compilation includes the messages and proclamations of the governors of Nebraska Territory, along with brief biographical sketches.

Morton, J. Sterling, succeeded by Albert Watkins. *Illustrated History of Nebraska*, vols. 1 & 2. Lincoln: Jacob North & Co., 1905-06. These volumes trace the political, economic, and social history of Nebraska Territory, including slavery, elections, legislative sessions, governors, judicial organization, banking, the press, land sales and surveys, political parties, churches, and military affairs. Although this history does not meet modern standards for objective scholarship, it is unsurpassed for details, derived largely from primary sources.

Olson, James C. *J. Sterling Morton*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1942; Lincoln: Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation, 1972. Several chapters of this biography relate to Morton's involvement in territorial politics and his role as territorial secretary, 1858-61, and for five months, acting governor.

Olson, James C. and Ronald C. Naugle. *History of Nebraska*, 3rd ed. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1999. An overview of territorial history appears in several chapters of this respected one-volume history of the state.

Potts, James B. "Nebraska Territory, 1854-1867: A Study of Frontier Politics." Ph.D. diss., University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 1973. Provides an in-depth analysis of territorial politics, on which his two *Nebraska History* articles were based.

White, John B. *Published Sources on Territorial Nebraska: An Essay and Bibliography*. Nebraska State Historical Society Publications, vol. 29. Lincoln: 1956. A chapter on major sources lists legislative journals, government reports and documents, diaries, letters, and similar contemporary materials. Contemporary materials with a lesser focus on Nebraska Territory appear in the next chapter, followed by chapters listing reminiscences, recollections, and other secondary sources, territorial newspapers, and maps of Nebraska Territory.