Here open to all is the history of this people.

Gratitude, pride and cautious optimism describe my feelings as we close the 2003–04 fiscal year. I am grateful that we did not have to further reduce staffing or services during the past year thanks to prudent budget decisions by the Nebraska State Legislature and the generosity of private supporters. I am proud of the self-sacrifice and professionalism of our staff, who have shouldered the extra burdens imposed by the state budget crisis during the last three years.

I am especially proud of the Society’s accomplishments over the past year. Moreover, I am cautiously optimistic that the state’s overall economy will improve despite persistent drought and ongoing economic problems.

2004 was the 150th anniversary of the Kansas-Nebraska Act. This commemoration has given us the opportunity to recall the early days of territorial Nebraska and to recall the impact of Euro-American migration on Native societies. Nebraska History magazine has led the way. An outstanding bibliographical essay provided all Nebraskans with an important reading list of pertinent scholarship that has appeared in the pages of our own magazine.

The Library/Archives exhibition of the Forke Map Collection at the Museum of Nebraska History likewise enabled us to visualize the physical changes in the place called Nebraska over the past three hundred years. The Library/Archives continues to serve as the backbone of nearly everything that we do at the Society ranging from our statutory obligations as a state repository to helping students prepare for National History Day competition.

The Archeology Division has completed a survey of cultural resources in the Omaha Metropolitan Area in a farsighted effort to manage materials and sites that are threatened by urban expansion. The discovery and preliminary investigation of Engineer Cantonment, the winter quarters of the 1819–1820 Stephen H. Long Expedition, will be the subject of a special conference during the NSHS annual meeting at the Ford Center. Out west, the site of Fort Mitchell, an 1860s Oregon Trail post, has tentatively been identified. Additionally, the Society has received a Bureau of Reclamation grant to recatalogue and rehouse artifacts collected from Nebraska sites over the past fifty years.

Across the state, National Register of Historic Places nominations were approved by the State Preservation Board for the Bryant House in Tekamah, the Wohler’s Homestead in Dawes County, the Western Public Service Building in Scottbluff, the Gering Courier Building, an amendment to the Sidney Business District, and the Standard Oil Service Station in Ogallala. Mrs. Walter (Ruby) Behlen’s gift of the family home in Columbus to the people of Nebraska presents wonderful opportunities to the NSHS. To those of us of a “certain age,” the 1950s hardly feel like history, but the decade was a dynamic time of change in Nebraska, the nation and the world. The Behlen home will allow the Society to interpret those allegedly “Happy Days” to future generations, and allow NSHS to be a visible part of the Columbus community.

The Society has been able to continue the Nebraska Institute in partnership with the Lincoln Public Schools. The Institute was quite simply the best in-service training that I experienced in my 35 years as a secondary history teacher. This year one of seventeen National Endowment for the Humanities grants has enabled the NSHS to offer to teachers nationally the opportunity to examine...
Visitors to the new Historical Society building, which once housed museum displays as well as administrative offices and the Library/Archives, enter a dramatic rotunda where frequently changing displays still illustrate aspects of the state’s history.

“Shifting Power on the Great Plains: Fort Robinson and the American West” on location at the fort and in the Pine Ridge country.

A new strategic plan was adopted at the June meeting of the Board. The new plan is the culmination of a five-month process that included work with a nationally known facilitator and months of intense work by committees composed of staff and board members. The strategic plan is very specific about NSHS goals and should enable the Society both to plan and to evaluate its efforts. The commitment to the development of a marketing plan is an especially exciting element of the document.

My focus on Society achievements may seem repetitive of material found elsewhere in this report. However, I feel that in difficult economic times, it is especially important to focus on the things that we have accomplished thanks to a dedicated and professional staff and the generosity of our benefactors, especially through the NSHS Foundation. If that makes me sound like a cheerleader for NSHS, so be it. During the coming year, we must focus on the difficult tasks of rebuilding and restoring while still working under budget constraints. I am cautiously optimistic that we will be able to make reasonable progress. We have the proven leadership of Director Lawrence Sommer, a dedicated board, a superb staff, an outstanding foundation and generous members and supporters. And, yes, we always have need of NSHS cheerleaders!

Patrick Kennedy
President
The Nebraska State Historical Society is pleased to present the following summary of its activities, including many notable achievements, in this annual report for the 2003–04 fiscal year. As the state’s economy continues to improve, much catching up will be needed to overcome the effects of budget constraints that have affected all state agencies and resulted in the loss of nearly twenty NSHS staff positions over the past three years. Nevertheless, the Society takes pride in not only continuing to fulfill its core mission, but also in breaking new ground.

Of particular note is the discovery by Society archeologists of the long-sought Engineer Cantonment site associated with the 1819–1820 Stephen Long expedition. Initial archeological excavations in the summer and fall of 2003 provided a wealth of information about this important military and scientific expedition.

In spring 2004 the Society acquired a significant mid-twentieth-century architectural landmark, the Walter and Ruby Behlen house in Columbus. This unique property will be developed as a state historic site and also will be used in a variety of ways by the Columbus community.

The Museum of Nebraska History continued its tradition of innovation with two particularly noteworthy exhibitions: “Recovered Views: African American Portraits, 1912–1925,” and “Putting Nebraska on the Map, 1540–1880: Highlights from the Forke Map Collection.” The first, a collection of recently discovered photographs by a previously unrecognized African American photographer from Lincoln, is now on a National Tour sponsored by the Mid America Arts Alliance. The second, a selection of maps donated by noted collector Don Forke traced the changing shape of Nebraska over three centuries. Generous support from Marilyn Forke brought map expert Dr. Don Cresswell to Nebraska for the exhibit opening.

In collaboration with Nebraska Educational Television, NSHS co-produced “Solomon Butcher: Frontier Photographer” for statewide broadcast. The fifth Fort Robinson History Conference was well attended by scholars and western history enthusiasts from across the country. A further affirmation of the Society’s significance in Nebraska’s contemporary life is its receipt of 2004 Governor’s Arts Award.

At the Museum of Nebraska History a new heating system complements a state-of-the-art air-conditioning system installed last year. Several repair and restoration projects were completed at Society sites including Ft. Robinson, Neligh Mill and the Willa Cather State Historical site in Red Cloud.

During the past year the Society received grants from varied sources to support projects ranging from improving collections storage to supporting educational programming. For the fourth consecutive year the Society achieved record levels of earned income from museum store sales, admissions and memberships.

Throughout the year the Society also received significant support from the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation for equipment purchases, internships, publications, National History Day travel scholarships, research fellowships for visiting scholars, and acquisitions for Society collections. As always, the Society appreciates its partnership with and support from the NSHS Foundation for programmatic activities that the state cannot fund.
Finally, the Society staff and board worked together to develop a new strategic plan emphasizing public service, awareness, and communication with all constituents.

We want to thank NSHS trustees James Denney of Omaha and Martin Massengale of Lincoln for their service to the Society. Having served two terms on the board, they are no longer eligible for reelection or reappointment, but their interest, leadership, and good counsel will be missed.

Thanks, too, to the many friends of the Society who have donated materials to the collections. The museum, the library and archives, and the archeological collections are richer because of their generosity.

Should you have questions or need additional information as you read this report, feel free to contact the Society by letter, telephone or e-mail. I’m confident you’ll agree that even in challenging times the Society finds ways to fulfill the vision inscribed beside the front door of our headquarters:

Here open to all is the history of this people.

Lawrence Sommer
Director and State Historic Preservation Officer
The Nebraska State Historical Society annually recognizes individuals or organizations for their contributions to the preservation and interpretation of Nebraska history. The 2003 awards were presented September 26 at the Society's annual meeting in Lincoln.

The Robert W. Furnas Award for significant contributions to the work of the Nebraska State Historical Society went to Ronald and Judith Stolz Parks of Papillion, Nebraska, recognizing their support of the Society's publishing program and the biennial Fort Robinson History Conference. The Parks established a fund at the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation that supported publication of Thomas R. Buecker's two-volume history of Fort Robinson in 1999 and 2002.

The James A. Sellers Memorial Award is given to the author of the best article in the previous year's volume of Nebraska History. Prof. Harl A. Dalstrom of the history department at the University of Nebraska at Omaha received the 2003 award. His article, "I'm Never Going to be Snowbound Again: The Winter of 1948–1949," appeared as a special fall/winter 2002 edition of the quarterly. Judges from the history department at Chadron State College selected the winning article, and the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation provided a cash prize and plaque to the author.

The Nebraska Preservation Award for outstanding accomplishments in the field of historic preservation in Nebraska went to Van and Janet Korell of McCook. The Korells were recognized for their preservation of the H. P. Sutton House in McCook, the only Nebraska structure designed by the noted architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

The Addison E. Sheldon Award for significant contributions to the preservation and interpretation of Nebraska history honors a former Society superintendent. Dr. James C. Olson, Sheldon's successor as superintendent from 1946 to 1956, received the Sheldon Award for 2003. While at the Society, Dr. Olson oversaw the construction and 1953 dedication of the new building at 1500 R Street in Lincoln, and authored the standard one-volume history of Nebraska, now in its third edition. His other publications include a biography of J. Sterling Morton and a major study of Chief Red Cloud. He went on to a distinguished career in higher education, including the presidency of the University of Missouri system, before his retirement.

History Day: Nebraska awards recognize outstanding student projects in the annual contest. In 2004 the junior division award went to students from St. Isidore School in Columbus for their group project. The students were Chelsey Zuerlein, Laura Zach, Sarah Jarecke, Molly Aerni, and Peter Heusinkvelt, and their project was entitled, "The Mennonite Experience in America: Exploration, Encounter, and Exchange." Their sponsoring teacher was Mary Lou Green.

Tamar Harrington of the Lincoln Public Schools Science Focus Program received the senior division award for "Nebraska School for the Deaf: An Encounter of Government and Culture." Jim Barstow was sponsoring teacher.
The director, as chief executive officer of the Society, implements board policy, administers the budget, and represents the institution to the public and to a variety of funding sources. The director and administrative staff work to provide the personnel and financial resources the Society needs to fulfill its mission. In addition to administration, the Nebraska State Historical Society operates with six major divisions: Museum/Historic Sites, Historic Preservation, Library/Archives, Research and Publications, Archeology, and Conservation. Each division is managed by an associate director who reports to the Society director.

**Administration Division Staff**
- Andrew Amiotte, security guard
- Shawn Bachman, maintenance technician
- Jerry Cain, security guard
- Joan Clare, human resource services coordinator
- Marcia Friesen, administrative secretary
- Katherine Garland, custodian
- Pamela Garland, security chief
- Roman Griser, security guard
- Lana Hatcher, staff assistant
- Ed Heiden, maintenance supervisor
- Lynne Ireland, assistant director for program development
- Teresa Jacobs, information services manager
- Patty Langer, accountant
- Pat Lutzi, custodian
- Colleen Maser, maintenance technician
- Deb McWilliams, executive assistant/volunteer services coordinator
- Troy Park, custodian
- Kris Riggs, museum store manager
- Jim Salber, custodian
- Tony Schmitz, deputy director for operations
- Lawrence J. Sommer, director
- Linda Wagaman, accounting clerk
- Dick Yost, staff assistant

**Highlights**

- Initiated a semester-long marketing project with the UN-L College of Journalism in which two teams of senior marketing students developed potential marketing plans for NSHS.

- Coordinated a new agency strategic planning process steered by a staff-board committee that incorporated findings from a day-long planning retreat facilitated by Mary Kay Ingenthron of MK Communications. Planners considered Public Dimension Assessment conclusions, marketing plan recommendations, and commentary from members and the general public. Communication is the overarching theme for the new plan to be introduced in July 2004.
“The Nebraska State Historical Society safeguards Nebraska’s past and makes it accessible in ways that enrich present and future generations.”

- Developed an agreement for acquisition of the Walter and Ruby Behlen State Historic Site working with Ruby Behlen of Columbus and her family, with cooperative support from a Columbus community task force.

- Acquired funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities for “Shifting Power on the Great Plains: Fort Robinson and the American West” teacher training workshops. The proposal was one of seventeen funded nationwide as part of the Landmarks of American History NEH initiative.

- Expanded broadcast of the NSHS History Forum/Brown Bag lecture series to the Omaha area via Cox Communications.

- Co-produced, with Nebraska Educational Telecommunications, “Solomon Butcher: Frontier Photographer,” a documentary based on NSHS’s Butcher photograph collection, which aired statewide via the NET network.

James C. Olson, director of the Historical Society 1944–1956, enters the Society headquarters, which was built during his term of service. Olson, an honored guest at the Society’s 2003 annual meeting and 125th anniversary celebration, received the Society’s Addison E. Sheldon Award at the annual meeting.
The Library/Archives Division is charged with the collection, management, and preservation of a wide spectrum of published and unpublished documentary materials and provides access to them for the public. The Society’s library contains approximately 80,000 volumes and includes books, periodicals, newspapers, state publications, and more than 3,000 maps and atlases. In its manuscript collections are the papers of families and individuals and the records of Nebraska businesses, organizations, religious groups, and private educational institutions. The archival collections also include some 350,000 photographs, 6.5 million feet of moving images on film and videotape, and state, county, and local government records of permanent value as mandated by legislative acts of 1905 and 1969. Together, these documents provide vital testimony to the history and culture of Nebraska.

**Highlights**

- Served more than 6,200 people in the Reference Room, responded to 3,203 research requests by mail, loaned more than 400 reels of microfilm via interlibrary loan, filled 350 customer orders for microfilm purchases, and produced 4,704 scans in the Digital Imaging Lab.

- Assisted in producing the publication *Local Television: A Guide to Saving our Heritage*, published by the Association of Moving Image Archivists and the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

- Cataloged 607 new titles and outsourced 3,167 manual records for conversion to automated form, bringing the number of library titles in the online catalog to more than 33,000 of the estimated 50,000 titles in the collection.

- Accessioned 132 donations to the manuscripts collections, including the personal papers of Eunice Woodhull Stabler, Omaha Indian writer and spokeswoman, and
“The Library/Archives Division safeguards the documentary heritage of Nebraska for the use of all.”

Hollis Dorian Stabler, Omaha elder and World War II veteran; records relating to the National Crane Company of Waverly; the military memoirs of World War II POW F. Eugene Liggett; a ledger from the A. J. Thompson General Store of Bancroft, which includes accounts for John G. Neihardt; the papers of politicians Frank and Shirley Marsh; and the Seacrest Nebraska Settlement Collection, which relates to the early history and settlement of Nebraska.

- Curated the annual film series. The 2003 theme was “Making Us Laugh: Nebraskans in Comedies.”
- Created personal name and subject database of 26,000 entries for the Union Pacific collection.
- Provided materials for the exhibit “Putting Nebraska on the Map, 1540–1880: Highlights from the Don Forke Map Collection.”
- Completed a film preservation project involving three reels of early amateur film of the University of Nebraska men’s gymnastics program from the 1930s and ’40s (funded by the National Film Preservation Foundation).
- Purchased several rare titles for the Library including Twenty Army Ballads, Favorites of the Boys Who Wore Blue, compiled by S. B. Jones for the George A. Custer Post No. 7, Grand Army of the Republic, Omaha, 1882, and Memoirs of Samuel M. Janney. Janney served as agent for the Santee Sioux in Nebraska.
- Responded to a flood caused by burst pipes at the K Street Records Center which affected records held by the State Archives. Cleanup and building rehabilitation continue.
- Presented workshops on digitizing moving images and sound recordings at professional conferences.
- Hired a new manuscripts curator, who will join the staff in FY2005.
Ed Zimmer, preservation planner with the Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Department, points out details of a photograph to a museum visitor at the opening of “Recovered Views: African American Portraits, 1912–1925.” The exhibit is now touring nationally with ExhibitsUSA.

The division gathers, preserves, researches, and interprets artifacts and sites representing Nebraska’s rich and diverse human experience, and provides the broadest possible public access to these resources. The museum is Nebraska’s official and preeminent artifact repository. Its collections serve as the basis for exhibitions, programs, publications, and educational outreach. Through a variety of media, the division gives people firsthand experience with the physical remnants of past life and the places where Nebraska history was made.

The division administers the Museum of Nebraska History in Lincoln and oversees seven historic sites statewide. The education, exhibition, museum collections, and historic sites departments form partnerships with individuals and organizations around the state and across the country to enrich people’s lives by increasing their understanding and enjoyment of Nebraska’s past.

MUSEUM OF NEBRASKA HISTORY

Highlights

• The Museum Collections Department added 453 objects to the museum’s collections, including a World War II era depth charge made by Beatrice Steel Tank Company; a trophy presented to Troop G, 12th U.S. Cavalry by the Black Hills Feature Film Company for services in making the movie, "The Days of ’75 and ’76"; and a Mason and Hamlin pump organ.
The Museum/Historic Sites Division educates people about Nebraska’s past through historic artifacts and historic places.

**Museum of Nebraska History & Historic Sites Division Staff**
- Deb Arenz, senior museum curator
- Thomas R. Buecker, curator, Fort Robinson Museum
- Bryce Darling, carpenter
- Alice Filbert, artist
- Linda Hein, site supervisor, Norris State Historic Site
- Delbert Johnson, custodian, Chimney Rock National Historic Site
- Signe Kniss, tour guide, Chimney Rock National Historic Site
- John Lindahl, education program associate, Kennard House
- Charley McWilliams, carpenter
- Laura Mooney, registrar
- Don Ofe, site supervisor, Neligh Mill State Historic Site
- Curt Peacock, artist
- Loren Pospisil, site supervisor, Chimney Rock National Historic Site
- Steve Ryan, designer
- Steve Scoggan, maintenance technician, Fort Robinson Museum
- Jessica Stoner, museum educator
- Cheryl Witte, staff assistant, Fort Robinson Museum

- Mounted “Patchwork Lives,” a two-year cooperative exhibit featuring quilts from the Nebraska State Historical Society and the International Quilt Study Center.
- Updated and expanded the museum collection section of the Society’s website.
- Loaned objects from the museum collections to the Genoa Indian School Foundation, the city of Falls City, the Eiteljorg Museum in Indianapolis, Indiana, and the St. Joseph Museum in St. Joseph, Missouri.
- Assisted in locating, researching, and preparing objects for the exhibits “Sowing Seeds for Statehood: Nebraska Territory, 1854–1867”; “Putting Nebraska on the Map, 1540–1880: Highlights from the Don Forke Collection”; “Patchwork Lives”; and “Nebraska Treasures.”
- Updated exhibits at Fort Robinson.
- Received an Institute of Museum and Library Services Conservation Project Support grant to clean, catalog, and rehouse the museum’s firearms collection.
- The Exhibition and Design Services Department completed projects at the Museum of Nebraska History including the move of the “Made in Nebraska” exhibit to the third floor, changes to the “First Nebraskans” exhibit, de-installation of the “Nebraska Treasures” exhibits, repairs to the History Adventure Center, and installation of nine temporary exhibits.
- Exhibits staff also prepared collection storage space, transported artifacts, photographed collection objects, designed publications and craft projects, assisted with historic marker rehabilitation, repairs and maintenance at historic sites and the Gerald R. Ford Conservation Center, created a Facilities Maintenance Master Plan for historic sites, built a winter cover over the Engineer Cantonment archeological site, maintained and administered the society’s web site, and designed stencils for Meridian Highway markers.
- The Education Department mailed 72 student educational packets, 144 educational leaflets, and 65,850 Trailblazers, and gave more than 342 tours. In all, more than 12,305 students participated in Education Department activities.
- Educational trunks were loaned to nearly a dozen schools and organizations.
- Historical markers were installed in Dawes, Hall, Lancaster, Madison, Otoe, and Pierce counties.

**HISTORIC SITES**

**Chimney Rock National Historic Site**
Bayard, Nebraska

The Society’s historic sites provide firsthand experiences at sites where some of the state’s most exciting history took place. The seven historic sites welcomed more than 67,000 visitors during the past year.

Chimney Rock National Historic Site interprets the significance of Chimney Rock, the most famous landmark on the Oregon-California Trail.

**Highlights**
- Welcomed 26,971 visitors, including 282 at the “Sunday Afternoon at the Rock” lecture series, and 72 elementary students for the annual ‘Trim The Tree’ program.
• Loren Pospisil, site supervisor, organized and led the 2004 Spring Tour of the Nebraska Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association and was elected Events Coordinator/President of the Nebraska Chapter.

• In August, Chimney Rock was the site of a legislative reception and the unveiling of a new statewide tourism campaign by the governor.

John G. Neihardt State Historic Site
Bancroft, Nebraska

The John G. Neihardt State Historic Site interprets the legacy of the former Nebraska poet laureate through exhibits and the preservation of the historic study in which he worked.

Highlights
• Welcomed more than 1,860 visitors, including 125 at the Spring Conference in April, 250 at Neihardt Day in August, and many more at weekly Sunday at the Museum programs.

• Held exhibits including artwork by Mona Martinson Neihardt, an exhibit of photographs by Fran Kingsbury entitled “Twentieth Century Petroglyphs, and the Bancroft-Lyons Art Club juried show.

• Became a “geocaching” site, (one of 78,000 in 200 countries). Geocaching, a GPS located scavenger hunt, has brought an average of one new visitor per month.

• Co-hosted, with Wayne State College and Northeast Community College, classes and presentations by Irish poet Desmond Egan.

• The Mill was a featured destination in the Jan.–Feb. issue of Home and Away, the AAA magazine.

• Participated in the fourth annual Laureate’s Feast, held on the Ft. Omaha campus.

• Published Volume V of The Neihardt Journal.

• Participated in activities of the Lewis and Clark Hiway 75 By-Way Committee.

Thomas P. Kennard House
Lincoln, Nebraska

The Thomas P. Kennard House, Nebraska Statehood Memorial, preserves the home of Nebraska’s first secretary of state, and interprets domestic and political life in the era when Nebraska became a state.

Highlights
• Welcomed 1,908 visitors.

• Decorated for “Victorian Holidays Past” in December and held an open house with free admission on Sunday, Dec. 7.

• Served as the location for filmed interviews for NETV documentaries on Solomon Butcher (co produced with NSHS) and Willa Cather, and for an interview with Dr. James C. Olson, former Society director.

• Installed new second floor air conditioning.
A popular event at the Fifth Annual Fort Robinson History Conference in April 2004, cosponsored by the Society and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, was an artillery firing demonstration by Loomis's Battery, Michigan Light Artillery. The conference theme was “A New Army for a New Century: Military Culture in Transition, 1890–1917.”

**Fort Robinson Museum**  
*Crawford, Nebraska*

The Fort Robinson Museum preserves and interprets the historic resources associated with Fort Robinson for the benefit of the public and to add to those resources through research.

**Highlights**

- Welcomed 11,530 visitors.
- Installed new water and sewer lines in the museum building, adobe quarters, shop, and veterinary hospital.
- Rebuilt porch decks and fire escape at the museum.
- Relocated the 1874 Guard House reconstruction to its exact site, replaced decayed sill logs in it and the Adjutant’s Office, and cleaned the outside logs of both buildings.
- Accepted a donation of eight replica Coehorn mortars from John and Judy Rehberg of Springfield, Nebraska.
- Tom Buecker, curator, made numerous presentations for various organizations around the state and was the main speaker at the dedication ceremony of the reconstructed 1870 barracks at Fort Buford State Historic Site in Williston, North Dakota.
Senator George W.
Norris State Historic Site
McCook, Nebraska

The Senator George Norris State Historic Site relates the story of a nationally significant Nebraska politician through the preservation and interpretation of his home and furnishings.

**Highlights**
- Welcomed more than 1,170 visitors.
- Held two quilt exhibits and one on spinning, weaving, and needlework.
- Assisted with planning and exhibition of the Smithsonian Institution’s traveling exhibit, “Yesterday’s Tomorrows” at the local museum.
- Linda Hein, tourism facility operator, retired after more than thirteen years with the Society.

Neligh Mill
State Historic Site
Neligh, Nebraska

The Neligh Mill State Historic Site preserves the state’s only nineteenth-century flour mill with original equipment and interprets the importance of the milling industry to the history of Nebraska.

**Highlights**
- Welcomed more than 1,771 visitors from 30 states and 5 foreign countries.
- Completed major repairs to the sprinkler system in the mill.
- Featured in the Nov.–Dec. issue of Nebraska Life Magazine.
- Provided a flour sack display for the Neligh Public Library.
- Completed extensive research on Mother’s Best Flour and Nebraska Consolidated Mills for a freelance writer.
- Volunteers included Katie Miller, Craig Payne, Nancy Ofe, Jed Miller, Laurel Miller, Shanna Koenig, and Fae Dunn.

Willa Cather
State Historic Site
Red Cloud, Nebraska

The Willa Cather State Historic Site preserves and interprets sites significant in the life and work of one of Nebraska’s greatest authors and makes Cather-related materials available to researchers.

**Highlights**
- Welcomed 12,530 visitors including 21 school tours and 6 researchers.
- Held annual Spring Festival.
- Continued ongoing repair work on site buildings.
- Tour guides are Nancy Sherwood, Barb Kudrna, Dorothy Mattison, Priscilla Hollingshead, Jan Ferebee, Johanna Bohrer, and Ashley Gay.
The Research and Publications Division publishes the Society's quarterly, Nebraska History, and conducts research leading to publication of books, archeological reports, and interpretive booklets about the history of Nebraska and the Great Plains. The division provides editorial services to other Society divisions, compiles the “Nebraska Timeline” column provided weekly to Nebraska newspapers through the Nebraska Press Association, and helps organize special programs and conferences. The division also administers the Society’s research grant program.

**Highlights**

- Published four issues of Nebraska History quarterly.
- Published six issues of Historical Newsletter.
- Distributed “Nebraska Timeline” columns to newspapers throughout the state.
- Awarded research grants to Elaine M. Nelson of Lincoln to support research into Eunice Woodhull Stabler’s life, 1885–1963, and to Gordon Scholz of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to support research into early birds-eye views of Nebraska towns.
- Coordinated with the Museum/Historic Sites Division and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission to sponsor the fifth Fort Robinson History Conference, “A New Army for a New Century: Military Culture in Transition, 1890–1917.”
- Published a paperback edition of Fort Robinson and the American West 1874–1899 by Tom Buecker (University of Oklahoma Press).
- Collaborated with the Museum of Nebraska History to organize and mount the exhibition “Recovered Views: African American Portraits, 1912–1925.” The exhibition is currently touring nationally with ExhibitsUSA accompanied by an exhibition catalog first published as a special edition of Nebraska History Vol. 84, No. 2 (Summer 2003).
- Collaborated with the Library/Archives division and the Museum of Nebraska History to mount and interpret a selection of the maps donated to NSHS by Marilyn Forke as an exhibition titled “Putting Nebraska on the Map, 1540–1920: Highlights from the Don Forke Collection.”
- Collaborated with the Library/Archives division and the Museum of Nebraska History to mount and interpret a headquarters building rotunda exhibition.
- Collaborated with the Museum of Nebraska History and the NSHS Foundation to produce the second NSHS Foundation History Mystery.
- Collaborated with the NSHS Foundation in fundraiser/friendraiser activities across the state.
- Participated in a co-production with NETV of the documentary film, “Solomon Butcher: Frontier Photographer.”
- Participated in grant writing and planning that resulted in a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for funding of a teacher workshop held at Fort Robinson in July and August 2004. The workshop, titled “Shifting Power on the Great Plains:
"The Research and Publications Division promotes research leading to a better understanding of the history and culture of Nebraska and its people, and disseminates the results."

Fort Robinson and the American West,” is one of seventeen NEH Landmarks of American History teacher workshops held at historic and cultural sites across the United States.

- Participated in Nebraska Institute teacher-training workshops.
- Participated in Nebraska History Day activities.
- Completed final editing of the Eli Ricker tablets soon to be published in two volumes as Voices of the American West (Vol. 1: Eli S. Ricker’s interviews with Native Americans, 1903–1919; Vol. 2: Eli S. Ricker’s interviews with Euro-Americans, 1903–1919) by the University of Nebraska Press.
- Completed initial planning, fieldwork, and preliminary design for publication of the Omaha World-Herald William Quesenbury sketchbook. Publication is anticipated in 2005.
- Completed public presentations associated with the Nebraska Humanities Council program, “Yesterday’s Tomorrows.”
- Participated in Society biennial strategic planning efforts, and served on the ad hoc planning work group.
- Completed work with the University of Nebraska Information Services to develop a research website on Nebraska architecture in support of a forthcoming book on the buildings of Nebraska.

One early visitor to Chimney Rock, now a National Historic Site maintained and operated by the Nebraska State Historical Society, was William Minor Quesenbury, who made this pencil sketch in 1851.
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

The Society administers Nebraska’s historic preservation program under the National Historic Preservation Act. The program includes the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey, archeological surveys, the National Register of Historic Places for Nebraska, review of federal undertakings, and assistance to developers of historic rehabilitation projects qualifying for federal tax incentives. The State Historic Preservation Office also participates in legislative studies, statewide planning processes, and interagency cooperation. The Nebraska State Historic Preservation Board serves in an advisory capacity to the State Historic Preservation program, including the review and recommendation of properties to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Park Service issues certification to participate in federally sponsored programs of historic preservation and supports the preservation program with grant funding for office operations, local government preservation programs, and survey projects.

Highlights

• Participated in agency planning and development of the Behlen house in Columbus, acquired by the Nebraska State Historical Society in April 2004.

• Completed survey projects in Cass and Nemaha counties of eastern Nebraska including a potential historic district, and a district in the linear three-block downtown central business district in Auburn.

• Initiated National Register nominations in Cass and Nemaha counties, including the Manley School (Cass), a National Youth Administration cabin in Young Cemetery (Cass), and the American Legion Memorial Park in Auburn, (Nemaha).

• Participated in preservation planning with the National Forest Service for significant historic properties in three units of the Nebraska National Forest.

• Initiated survey projects in Dawes and Sioux counties, which will include an historic context on ranching in the counties, an evaluation of the Warbonnet/Montrose site in partnership with the National Forest Service, and a building description for each of 204 buildings at Fort Robinson used to complete an NHL boundary extension for the fort’s designation as a National Historic Landmark.

• Properties in the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey exceeded sixty-four thousand during the past year. A new database improves accessibility to data collected over the past twenty-five years and will assist conversion to Geographic Information System (GIS).

• Processed the entry of twenty-one properties to the National Register of Historic Places and reviewed thirty-two more for potential eligibility.

• Conducted archeological investigations near Omaha. The Society’s Archeology Division is nearing completion of this project.

• Conducted archeological surveys in the Bow Valley area of Cedar County. An additional fifteen hundred acres will be surveyed as an extension to the original project.

• Initiated a survey of the old Ponca Agency site in Boyd County and survey work in Cheyenne County.
Overseeing the laying of the cornerstone for the new Historical Society building in 1952 is a group of dignitaries including State Senator Daniel Garber (holding a trowel), who sponsored legislation for its funding.

- Provided non-political information and technical assistance to Friends of Amendment One, a group promoting a constitutional amendment on the November 2004 ballot that would clear the way for future legislation to allow a temporary “hold” on the increased value of assessed property taxes attributed to improvements made to historic properties.

- Participated in agency-wide strategic plan revision.

- Conducted or participated in more than fifty public outreach information and education meetings statewide.

- Cosponsored the Nebraska Lied Main Street Program with the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, Nebraska Department of Roads, Nebraska Community Foundation, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Architecture. Eighteen communities are enrolled, focusing on comprehensive revitalization of their downtowns.

- Participated in interagency programs including the Nebraska Department of Roads Transportation Enhancement Program, the Nebraska Byways program co-administered by the Nebraska Department of Roads and Nebraska Department of Economic Development Division of Travel and Tourism, the Technical Assistance Review Process (TARP) consisting of six state and federal agencies that assist and coordinate housing programs, and the USDA Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program.
“The State Historic Preservation Office promotes the preservation and enhancement of the cultural resources of the state of Nebraska.”

- Assisted in the organization of and participated in the 2003 “Nebraska Institute: Teaching Nebraska History and Culture through Social Studies and the Humanities” in partnership with Nebraska Wesleyan University and Lincoln Public Schools.
- Assisted in preparing a successful grant application to National Endowment for the Humanities “Landmarks in American History” teacher training program in partnership with Lincoln Public Schools and Nebraska Wesleyan University. Assisted in development of curricula and logistics for the one-week program held twice at Fort Robinson National Historic Landmark.
- Funded Certified Local Government (CLG) historic preservation programs in Lincoln and Omaha to underwrite local preservation activities.
- Assisted Red Cloud with re-organization of its CLG program and revision of its community preservation ordinance.
- Assisted in development of preservation ordinances in Sidney and Plattsmouth in anticipation of achieving Certified status for those communities.
- Successfully revised Nebraska Certified Local Government Procedures per National Park Service requirements.
- Successfully participated in extensive consultation with National Park Service concerning application of Nebraska survey and evaluation methodologies for large-scale historic agricultural landscapes.
- Processed six applications for historic preservation tax incentives projects in Omaha, Lincoln, and Hastings. These projects exceed seven million dollars and are estimated to create more than eighty new housing units.
- Commented on more than fourteen hundred federal undertakings for potential effects on historic and culturally significant properties.
- Successfully consulted with USAF to avoid, minimize and mitigate adverse effects to historic properties at Offutt AFB as part of a fifty million dollar privatization of military housing.
- Participated in extensive and ongoing consultation and public meetings with three federal agencies, community groups, local government, and three developers to take into account federal activities that will affect a large portion of the Central Hastings Historic District.
- Completed significant work on initial development for a Geographic Information System (GIS) for the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey database, funded in part by Nebraska Department of Roads. Major elements included data, mapping, and normalization requirements for historic bridges and highway-related historic properties.
- Implemented a database of division’s slide collection and conversion to digital images, which will allow a search by county, site name, or surveyed site number.
- Participated in NSHS web site development by placing eleven county survey reports on the Society’s website.
The Archeology Division is in the unusual position of providing services to both state and federal government agencies (the Nebraska Department of Roads and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in particular) related to obligations under various historic preservation laws.

The division’s two major projects are the Engineer Cantonment excavations and rehousing/recataloging of archeological collections from past Bureau of Reclamation projects. Division members also have presented numerous lectures and assisted outside researchers through file searches and collection loans.

Working for the Department of Roads, we have identified and evaluated many archeological sites and architectural resources that could be affected by planned projects. We are expanding our use of high-tech methods to explore the past, including ground-penetrating radar, electronic mapping, and Geographic Information Systems.

**Highlights**

- Accessioned material from twenty Bureau of Reclamation collections and cataloged more than seventy thousand objects.
- Accessioned material from nine Nebraska Department of Roads collections and cataloged more than twenty-six thousand objects.
- Continued laboratory analysis of materials from Engineer Cantonment (1819–20) in Washington County, the Eagle Ridge site, an early eighteenth century Native American village in Sarpy County, and a seventeenth century Pawnee village in Saunders County.
- Processed fifteen loans for various student and professional researchers from within and outside of Nebraska.
- Presented lectures to thirteen public or school groups.
- Fielded more than one hundred inquiries from the public regarding various aspects of Nebraska archeology.
"The Archeology Division preserves, enhances, explores, and interprets Nebraska’s archeological resources for the benefit of the public and the advancement of science."

- Edited the journal Central Plains Archeology.
- Nearly one hundred volunteers donated about eighteen hundred hours of field work, data entry, and laboratory processing of artifacts.
- Presented two Brown Bag lectures.
- Evaluated 154 Nebraska Department of Roads projects for potential impact to National-Register-of-Historic-Places-eligible sites. More than 100 archeological sites and architectural properties were recorded and evaluated.
- Recorded ninety-four previously unknown archeological sites identified by archeologists from the Society and other agencies. Sites include both Euro-American and Native American properties.
- Coordinated book reviews for the journal Plains Anthropologist.
- Provided archeological fieldwork experience to groups of students from Omaha-area elementary and high schools and the Durham Western Heritage Museum.
- Participated in twenty-six investigations at the State Patrol crime lab and other law enforcement agencies.
- Taught the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Archeological Field School.
- Conducted more than fifty site file/literature searches for outside researchers.
- Participated in a multiracial consultation with the Kansas City Corps of Engineers.
- Completed report on a 5,500-acre sample survey in the Omaha area. This project is a joint Archeology Division/ Historic Preservation Division undertaking.
- Continued excavations at Engineer Cantonment, the 1819–20 winter camp of the Stephen Long Expedition from Pittsburgh to the Rocky Mountains.
- Completed surface collection and test excavations at Ft. Mitchell near Gering, a prehistoric stone quarry near Ashland, and a prehistoric habitation near Naponee.
- Sponsored four professional internships for graduate students in archeology and museum studies.
- Coordinated ground penetrating radar surveys at the Borders Pioneer Cemetery near Louisville and near Ft Atkinson.
- Completed accession-level database for all recorded archeological sites.
- Purchased a Flote-Tech machine to improve processing of soil samples.
- Was awarded T-21 grant (Nebraska Department of Roads) of fifty thousand dollars for the study and interpretation of materials from Engineer Cantonment.
- Received $218,000 from the Bureau of Reclamation for cataloging large collections from past Bureau archeology projects.
- Renewed cooperative agreement with the Nebraska Department of Roads.
- Hired six technicians for Bureau of Reclamation and Engineer Cantonment projects.
Services provided by the Gerald R. Ford Conservation Center in Omaha include consultation, assessment of collection condition, assessment of conservation needs, educational and training opportunities, and the specialized conservation treatment of collection materials.

Highlights

• Accepted more than 129 new projects for conservation treatment, including Faberge egg pendants, a 1921 watercolor of the stadium at UN-L, a Masonic presentation sword, four chandeliers by French architect Hector Guimard, and three Lewis & Clark documents from the Oklahoma Historical Society to be displayed at Ft. Atkinson for the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial celebration.

• Completed conservation treatments of more than three hundred objects, including the Susan LaFlesche Picotte diary (National Library of Medicine), two large stained glass windows, works by artists Andrew Wyeth, Juan Miro, and Thomas Hart Benton, the chandelier from Whitehall mansion, two oversize cemetery plot maps, two hundred artifacts from the Midwest Archeological Center, and a pilot project to conserve thirty-two artifacts from the Steamboat Bertrand shipwreck.

• Completed conservation work for the “Nebraska Territory” and “Putting Nebraska on the Map” exhibits, including Brigadier General Thayer’s sword and scabbard, former Governor R. W. Furnas’s Civil War spurs, and the key to the Nebraska capital building in Omaha.

• Library Volunteer Nina Little cataloged and processed 351 items for the Kendra Lovette collection at the Ford Center Library.
“The Conservation Division conserves and preserves the cultural, historical, and educational collections of Nebraska and the region.”


- Completed collection surveys for the Eleanor and Edsel Ford House and Wind Cave National Park.

- Wrote successful grant application, with Museum Division colleagues, to the Institute of Museum and Library Services for $49,962 to document and rehouse the Museum of Nebraska History’s important gun collection.

- Organized projects with Museum Division staff to improve storage conditions in the Museum of Nebraska History: vacuuming and covering furniture, vacuuming and backing 100 large paintings, and raising collections off the floor.

- Lab Technician Peterson Brink completed a project to collect data documenting the space and housing needs of the Museum of Nebraska History’s collections.

- Consulted with members of the Archeology Division concerning safe excavation and conservation of Engineer Cantonment artifacts.

- Assisted in emergency response to flood at the K Street Public Records Facility and advised staff on future emergency preparedness and response actions.

- Gave two brown bag lectures: “The Save Outdoor Sculpture Program” and “The Conservation of the Forke Map Collection.”

- Taught a three-credit graduate level course in preventive conservation for the final class of the Museum Studies Program of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

- Volunteer Librarian Nina Little continued work to catalog the Ford Center library’s collection of conservation and preservation related titles.

- Continued work on a book on preventive conservation for Historic House Museums funded in part by a Kress Publication Fellowship from the American Institute for Conservation.
Among the objects treated by the Gerald R. Ford Conservation was this elaborate chandelier that hangs in Whitehall Mansion.

- Attended four conservation and preservation workshops and three conferences.

- Tara Kennedy qualified for Professional Associate membership in the American Institute for Conservation and became an approved assessor for The Institute of Museum and Library Services Conservation Assessment Program. Julie Reilly and Kristin Pluhacek completed their certificates in fundraising management from University of Nebraska at Omaha.

- Hosted pre-program interns Tijana Antonic from Mt. Holyoke College in Massachusetts, and Megan Hewitt from Creighton University in Omaha.

- Gave more than thirty special tours of the Conservation Center, the Ford Exhibit, and the Digital Imaging Lab, to more than one thousand guests, including Creighton University’s Medical Ethics Department, the Nebraska Bankers Association, the Nebraska Library Association, Ft. Calhoun High School, HDR Architecture and Engineering staff, and Omaha Public Schools fourth grade teachers.

- Hosted an American Institute for Conservation workshop on pressure-sensitive tape removal for upper level conservators from all over the world.

- Sponsored the traveling exhibit, “Preserving Memory: America’s Monumental Legacy”, created by Heritage Preservation as part of their “SOS: Save Outdoor Sculpture” program. The exhibit included brown bag lectures, tours, video screenings, and a reception co-hosted by the Omaha Mayor’s Public Art Commission.

- Hosted events including Opera Omaha’s Annual Program Dinner, Omaha Public Schools middle school and elementary teachers in-service training, Field Club Neighborhood Association activities, Lauritzen Gardens staff retreat, and numerous weddings and receptions.

- Installed a de-ionized water system in the Ford Center labs, replaced and upgraded all gutters damaged by an ice storm, and replaced and upgraded all exterior windows.

- Participated in more than forty private consultations and answered hundreds of public inquiries and letters to provide information on the care and preservation of collections.

- Completed the scanning of more than six hundred historic documents and photographs for the “Territorial Kansas On-Line” project, a joint effort by the University of Kansas and the Kansas State Historical Society.

- Digitized materials for fifteen other institutions and private clients from Nebraska and the surrounding states.

- Scanned a set of original glass plate negatives on loan to NSHS for use in the traveling exhibit, “Recovered Views: African American Portraits 1912–1925.”

- Created digital surrogates of selected objects from NSHS collections, including the diary of Susan LaFlesche Picotte and twenty-nine maps from the Forke collection.

- Continued work on the NSHS Aero Services collection, completing nearly one thousand high resolution scans of the glass plate negatives as part of a project funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUNTEERS

• Contributed a total of 9,423 hours to the Nebraska State Historical Society.

• Continued to participate in bimonthly volunteer programming.

• Enjoyed a volunteer appreciation at the Van Brunt Visitors Center/Mary Riepma Ross Media Arts Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and a bus trip to sites in northern Kansas.

Jeanette Adams, museum store
Pam Alan, archeology
Vicki Alan, archeology
Fred Alley, historic preservation board
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Mel Antrim, museum store
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Penny Bratland, Norris historic site
Kay Buecker, Fort Robinson museum
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Letha Buchholz, administration
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Kevin Burnison, archeology
Pat Callies, museum store
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Nancy Carlson, archeology
Susan Cassman, museum
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Jack Chaffin, docent
Molly Christiansen, museum
Sonja Colberg, library/archives
Pat Cole, museum
Melissa Connor, historic preservation board
Erica Corwin, library/archives
Dennis Cotton, Norris historic site
Taylor Croffey, archeology
Al Cuellar, Norris historic site
Marilyn Cuellar, Norris historic site
Tom Curran, docent
Peggy Dahlman, museum
Shirley Davidson, archeology
Catherine David, museum store
Lauren Davis, museum store
Nathan Davis, archeology
James Denney, board of trustees

Gloria Dittman, museum
Duane Dorman, library/archives
Walt Duda, historic preservation board
Fae Dunn, Neligh Mill
Brad Dwiggins, archeology
Laurie Einspahr, archeology
Jim Ferragauti, archeology
Phyllis Fischer, docent
Gavin Flint, archeology
Ken Flint, archeology
Judy Frederick, museum store
Christopher Frobel, library/archives
Kevin Fury, archeology
Sean Fury, archeology
Kathy Galvin, archeology
Melanie Gibson, research and publications
Vince Goeres, library/archives
Edus Goldenstein, Kennard house
Tom Goldenstein, archeology
Lori Gottula, museum store
Colleen Grant, Norris historic site
Gerald Grauer, Kennard house
Shirley Grauer, Kennard house
Jack Greenwell, archeology
Zack Greenwell, archeology
Jim Griess, archeology
Helen Griffin, museum store
Emily Griffith, library/archives
Perry Gydesen, archeology
Sharon Gydesen, archeology
George Haecker, historic preservation board
Veldron Hall, Norris historic site
Joyce Hannawald, library/archives
Nancy Haney, historic preservation board
Christine Hanson, archeology
Evelyn Hastings, docent
Joyce Hawthorne, archeology
W. Scott Hawthorne, archeology
Bob Heller, archeology
Gladi Helm, docent
Joyce Hillman-Kortum, board of trustees
Jamison Hofer, archeology
Vicki Hoffman, museum store
Tracey Hofman, museum, library/archives
Don Hogg, Kennard house
Gwendolyn Holley, museum
Glen Houtz, docent
Don Humphrey, docent
Cathy Hutchinson, archeology
Stan Hutchinson, archeology
Claire Jennings, archeology
Wendy Johnson, library/archives
Chuck Jones, museum, library/archives
Volunteers perform myriad tasks at the Historical Society, and are a vital component of the agency's success. Here, volunteer Jerry Whitney (standing) consults with Library/Archives Division reference staff member Matt Piersol.
Respectfully submitted,

Tony A. Schmitz  
Deputy Director for Operations

*In addition to the figure above the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation provided direct support in the amount of $165,284.
NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOUNDATION

The Foundation congratulates the Nebraska State Historical Society on its 125th anniversary. We recognize the foresight of those who founded the Society and applaud all who have served the Society as members, staff, and trustees.

It is with considerable pride that we note that the Foundation has served the Society for more than sixty-two years. The many donors who have given so generously over the years have honored and protected the histories we all share by helping to ensure their future.

The Foundation also serves those donors by assuring them that their gifts are invested prudently and expended wisely, and always with an eye and heart attuned to what the donor wanted to accomplish. It is both an art and science, and even more important, it is a trust that every Foundation trustee and member of the board of directors takes seriously and personally.

We invite and encourage you to join us in supporting the Society by giving through the Foundation.

Throughout this annual report you will read what the Society has accomplished in its 125th year. The Foundation wants to share with you a few examples of the accomplishments supported by gifts it has received. The range of interests, types of gifts, and the donors themselves are all varied. But what they have in common is an interest in our history and a belief in its importance.

Please join us by investing in a future that is informed by its history.

Allison D. Petersen, President
Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation

NSHS Foundation Staff
Therese Campbell, office/event manager
Carissa Hahn, office assistant
Karen Heath, membership coordinator
Jackie Spahn, executive director

Historical Society Foundation President Allison Petersen welcomes guests to the opening of “Recovered Views: African American Portraits, 1912-1925” at the Museum of Nebraska History. The foundation sponsored the opening of the exhibit, which is now touring nationally.

NSHS Foundation volunteers pose for a photo after a day’s hard labor at the Engineer Cantonment archaeological dig.
The Nebraska State Historical Foundation works to provide private funding to support the increased understanding and appreciation of Nebraska history.

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Jack D. Campbell, Lincoln
C. John Guenzel, Lincoln
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James W. Hewitt, Lincoln
James F. Nissen, Lincoln
John W. Webster, Omaha

Visitors tour the Brownville home of Governor Robert W. Furnas, now owned by the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation. Furnas was Nebraska’s second governor and a founder of the Historical Society.

Stewards of Nebraska History

Perpetually recognizes individuals and organizations for generous gift leadership totaling $50,000 or more, including contributions of cash and property made during or after lifetime or a commitment for future support at this level.

The Ethel S. Abbott Charitable Foundation, Lincoln
Marjorie L. Barstow Estate, Lincoln, given in memory of Lt. Adrian DePutron
Walter D. and Ruby Behlen, Columbus
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Guardians of Nebraska History

Perpetually recognizes individuals and organizations for generous gift leadership totaling $10,000 to $49,999, including contributions of cash and property made during or after lifetime or a commitment for future support at this level.

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Mammel Family Foundation, Omaha  
Larry and Danell Martin, Lincoln City, OR  
M. L. Martin, North Platte  
Patricia Marvin, Lincoln  

UN-L anthropology student Andy Moore processes a soil sample using the Archeology Division’s new Flote-Tech. The Flote-Tech Rototation System was purchased with assistance from the NSHS Foundation.  
* John and Megan Massey, Scottsbluff  
McCook National Bank, McCook  
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<tr>
<td>Robert and Nancy Slabaugh</td>
<td>Omaha</td>
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<td>James Sloan, Littleton, OH</td>
<td>Lincoln</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larry and Margaret Small</td>
<td>Lincoln</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denzel Smith, Vero Beach, FL</td>
<td>Lincoln</td>
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Wilburn and Darlene Smith, Pasco, WA
Willard and Mary Sommerhalder, Steinauer
Marjorie Southard, Camden, ME
Richard and Phyllis Spence, Lincoln
Del and Min Splitter, Big Springs
Karyn Stansbery, Bellevue
Lewis and Barbara Stapp, Bellevue
Norma Steinkruger, Franklin
Sara Stephenson, Lincoln
Ken and Betty Stevens, Farnam
Helen Strohbehn, Mesa, AZ
Michael and Rosalee Swartz, Lincoln
Marion and Donna Thacker, Grand Island
Robert Thelen, Baltimore, MD
Lawrence and Ruth Vaughan, Lincoln
John and Jean Vincent, York
Donald and Iryl Voelte, Omaha
Janeen Vokaun, Kearney
Willard and Beulah Waldo, DeWitt
Robert Walker, Beatrice
Dr. Robert and Blanche Wallish, Glen Ellyn, IL
Larry and Shary Walrod, Gordon
Frederick Walters, Rockville, MD
Jessica and John Warren, Stapleton
Richard and Kathryn Wary, Stockton, CA
Water Tech Inc., Omaha
John and Glenice Watson, O’Neil
Faith Weber, Lincoln

Dr. Joseph J. Wydeven, Bellevue
Anthony and Mary Youkers, Omaha
Lyle and Marguerite Young, Lincoln

Individuals Honored through Gifts

When a gift is made in someone’s honor, the honored individual is notified and the funds are administered as specified by the contributor. Unrestricted gifts are used wherever the need is the greatest.

Reverend K. Roy and Mrs. Mildred Bailey, Lincoln, given by Nye Bond
Marjorie Fishko
Mary Gottsch
Donald O. McCarthy, given by Karen L. Eger
James L. McKee, Lincoln, given by Kingery, Inc., General Contractors
Pauline Petersen, given by Estate of Anna M. Huber
Rodney Walker, Omaha, given by Dale and Christina Broekemeier, given by Mary Gay Gordon

Individuals Memorialized through Gifts

When a gift is made in someone’s memory, the next of kin of the deceased is notified, and the funds are administered as specified by the contributor. Unrestricted gifts are used wherever the need is the greatest.

Robert D. Anderson, given by Patricia V. Anderson, James H. Evarts, and Kathleen R. Ferguson
Fritz Eggli, given by Wayne and Darlene Schild
Hazel Claire Eggli, given by Wayne and Darlene Schild
Marian Mae Galusha, given by M. Galusha Revocable Trust
Caroline Ritchey Kivett, given by David Gradwohl, Ames, IA; Robert Pettit, Lincoln; Sharon and Mike Hammond, Lincoln; Mrs. W. W. Bartels, Lincoln; Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Hurd, Lincoln; Audrey Newton, Lincoln; John and Lila Sanders, Lincoln; Dr. Peter and Ann Bleed, Lincoln; Thomas Witty, Topeka, KS
Otto Kotouc, given by Mildred L. Kotouc
Delores Theobald Mohler, given by Iryl Velte, Omaha; Isabel Rubin, Omaha; Virginia Lakin, Bellevue; Alain Ruff, Elkhorn; Phyllis Phillips, Omaha; Robert and Barbara Blair, Omaha; Shirley Shainholtz, Omaha
Irma (Schild) Podliska, given by Wayne and Darlene Schild
Lillian Rutledge, given by James K. Fruehling