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SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY: ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

The year 2021 has been one of renewed efforts as well as rededication to our mission in the midst of the challenges brought on by the continued pandemic. Dr. Ben Jones completed his first year as the new State Historian and Director of the Society. With the support of the Trustees, Foundation and the active participation of the staff, the Society recast its mission statement. It now reads: "Together we empower audiences to experience South Dakota's stories. We professionally collect, preserve, interpret and publish our history for future generations. We are proudly supported by the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation and are affiliated with the Smithsonian Institution." We will also begin to use the tagline "Experience History" in our materials.

Despite the pandemic, visitors to the museum, archives and other activities in the Cultural Heritage Center numbered nearly 11,000 for the year. Our staff continues to adapt to the conditions, developing ways to enhance public outreach and grow our audience. We've increased our social media presence and are adding virtual attendance options for the 2022 History Conference. Most notably, we started a podcast, "History 605," in July. It features a wide variety of authors and influential South Dakotans as guests. A new episode is released every two weeks.

The Archaeological Research Center continued its very methodical unpacking and reorganizing of materials while having a busy summer season supporting a wide variety of projects. The Archives acquired a greater capacity to scan documents and make them available online. Additionally, the Pickler Papers, an important collection of suffrage materials, were organized, scanned and are now accessible online. Similarly, the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation continued its work on the women's history initiative "Her Vote. Her Voice." and has begun to organize the project's oral history efforts. The Museum wrapped up a successful tem-

porary exhibit on the presence of Cold War nuclear missiles in South Dakota and designed a fascinating exhibit on fashion in the state. The Museum staff also organized a very successful history conference. Historic Preservation continued its work managing the Deadwood Grant program and garnered six more sites on the National Historic Register. We also appreciate all the volunteers who stepped up to help our staff in 2021.

This year's Governor's Awards for History named Scott Tubbs of Rapid City's Stevens High School as History Teacher of the Year. The Individual Governor's Award went to three impressive and creative people, Larry Belitz of Hot Springs and Wayne Fanebust and John Mollison of Sioux Falls. Jay Vogt and Nancy Tystad Koupal earned the Doane Robinson Award for their dedication to advancing South Dakota's history.

This year, Board of Trustees elections resulted in both change and continuity. Peggy Sanders of Oral was reelected to the at-large position and Rolene Schliesman of Wilmot was reelected to the architectural historian position. Gov. Kristi Noem appointed Marshall Damgaard of Sioux Falls and Billie Kingfisher of Vermillion to the two at-large three-year terms vacated by Francis White-bird and Jon K. Lauck. Sean J. Flynn took on the role of president from Brad Tennant and Tom Hurlbert took on the role of vice president from David Wolff.

We look forward to an exciting year. Gov. Noem's budget recommendation includes \$8.8 million in funding for a major renovation of the Cultural Heritage Center. If the legislature supports it, 2022 will begin a time of great change. While that path is not clearly defined, we know that professionally collecting, preserving, interpreting and publishing our state's history requires improvements to the Cultural Heritage Center and we look forward to the potential renewal that such a renovation would mean for all of us.

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History Notes is published three times yearly by the South Dakota State Historical Society. History Notes is available upon demand on audio tape and large print. Other forms will be considered upon request.

Printed on recycled paper.

There were 2,500 copies of *History* Notes printed at a cost of 49 cents per copy.

ARCHAEOLOGY

In 2021, the Archaeological Research Center conducted 62 Class III cultural resources projects, seven of which required evaluative testing to determine National Register eligibility. A total of 72 Class III survey reports and 117 Class I records search reports, which did not require pedestrian survey, were completed. Projects were conducted for the Department of Transportation, Game, Fish and Parks, the state Veterans Home and private contractors. Mining and exploration permit reviews increased almost 40 percent in 2021 for a total of 138 submissions.

The staff completed and submitted the National Register of Historic Places evaluation report for 39MD0087, a bison processing site along the Belle Fourche River in Meade County. Staff worked on two grants this year with funds from the State Historic Preservation Office. One project involved completing the fieldwork and the final report for Phase II of a Remote Sensing Pilot Project along the Moreau River drainage in western South Dakota. Staff also finished fieldwork for the other grant, which proposes to nominate five burial mound sites in Brookings, Mellette and Roberts counties to the National Register of Historic Places.

We completed curation contracts with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation and Black Hills National Forest in 2021. A total of 2,269 digital catalog records for 8,537 historic artifacts were created for the Black Hills National Forest. The team inventoried and stabilized the



ARC staff compare a bison bone against a bison mount.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers collection from Fort Sully II (39SL45) on the Missouri River, which includes dozens of complete bottles and ceramic vessels.

After moving into our new building in July 2020, 2021 saw the last stages of unpacking and renovation. These efforts included, among other things, recataloging the research library, installing new flooring in collection storage and placing map cases on wheeled platforms. The final task is to set up the comparative collection room. In addition, the office published the first in a series on material culture of South Dakota, a guide to the stone used to produce tools found at archaeological sites across the state.



The archaeology team completed a mining inspection in the Black Hills.

ARCHIVES

The Archives received 247 new donations this year, totaling 219.9 cubic feet and nearly 300,000 MB of records. Staff processed and made accessible 249 cubic feet and 225,981 MB of manuscript and government records and cataloged and added 121 library books to the library collections. The Archives reached 844 people through presentations and consultations. Staff members also inputted 38,649 entries from the 1935 state census into a database.

The third round of funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities to digitize historical newspapers ended in June 2021. The Archives added 100 new rolls of newspapers on microfilm to the Chronicling America website, making a total of 300 rolls available on the free website.

The John and Alice Pickler collection was the focus of 2021's digitization project. In 1991, 65 boxes of Pickler family records were donated to the South Dakota State Archives, including photographs, political papers, business records and over four boxes of suffrage-related correspondence, speech notes, meeting minutes and booklets. John Pickler and his wife Alice moved to Faulkton, Dakota Territory, in 1882 and became prominent citizens in the area. John was elected to the territorial legislature in 1884 and introduced suffrage legislation, which was unsuccessful, in 1885. He also served in the U.S. House of Representatives for eight years and advocated for women's right to vote. Alice was also involved in the suffrage movement as a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and the South Dakota Equal Suffrage Association.

To improve access to the collection and commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, the suffrage portions of the Pickler Papers were selected for digitization and cataloging. These records are now available to the public on the South Dakota Digital Archives (https://sddigitalarchives.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/). A generous donation from the F. L. Clarkson Family Foundation made digitization of this collection possible.

Archives Month was celebrated in October 2021. Staff developed and displayed a poster on the Archives Month webpage for viewers to download, print and post in other archival organizations across the state. The Archives also hosted events online to inform the public about the institution's resources. Manuscript archivist Matthew Reitzel led a "Recently Accessioned Manuscript Collections" YouTube presentation. Archives staff participated in National Archives Month events, such as Electronic Records Day and #AskAnArchivistDay. In Pierre, the Archives hosted a "Walking through History" event: five reenactors representing Governors Arthur Mellette, Coe Crawford, Robert Vessey, George T. Mickelson and Ralph Herseth interacted with visitors along the Trail of Governors. The 44 participants were encouraged to visit the State Archives to view a selection of governors' papers. Staff also hosted a Virtual History Trivia Night, with five teams and 14 attendees.



Visitors speak with Gov. Coe Crawford reenactor Kevin Kumpf at the "Walking Through History' event held in October 2021.

State Archives Staff

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Virginia Hanson
Nicole Hosette
Sarah Kirchman
Steve Mayer
Cherri Reed
Matthew Reitzel
Kimberly Smith

State Historic Preservation Office Staff

Ted Spencer, Director & State
Historic Preservation Officer
Liz Almlie
Jenna Carlson-Dietmeier
Heather Mulliner
Chris Nelson
Katie Shroyer
Katie Wasley
Justin Woods

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

In 2021, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) had another fulfilling year identifying, recording and preserving historic sites across the state. We also welcomed two new staff members to our office this year: Katie Shroyer as our Historic Preservation Assistant in May, and Justin Woods as our Review and Compliance Archeologist in August. They have been wonderful additions to our staff in 2021.

Our Deadwood Fund Grant Program, now in its 24th year, awarded 11 new grants for preservation projects, for a total award amount of \$146,050 with planned matching funds of \$494,000. The anticipated total public-private investment for historic preservation will be \$640,050. The State Property Tax Moratorium (SPTM) financial incentive program certified 14 projects in five counties in 2021. The SPTM is an eight-year state historic preservation property tax moratorium for restoring and rehabilitating historic buildings. If a historic building qualifies for the tax benefit, an eight-year delay is placed on the property tax assessment of any certified improvements, which provides an important incentive to initiate essential preservation work on important structures. Of the 14 properties receiving the moratorium, 11 are private residences and the remaining three are or will be

income-producing properties. Investment per project ranged from \$3,000 to \$200,000, while private investment totaled \$1.77 million.

SHPO also ensured that properties in South Dakota were added to the National Register of Historic Places program in 2021. We approved important updates to the boundaries and specific properties encompassing the Lead Historic District. In addiproperties were added to the State Register of Historic Places. We will also be submitting the Brown Homestead, located near Cactus Flats, to the National Park Service for National Historic Landmark (NHL) listing status. This very significant site will hopefully join the 16 other NHLs listed in South Dakota. An NHL listing is the highest honorific designation bestowed by the National Park Service.

This past year was also noteworthy as SHPO worked through important Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) projects due to drought and wildfires across the state. The Department of Agriculture approved special funding for 39 counties in South Dakota severely affected by drought and wildfires. Our dedicated Review and Compliance Staff processed over 1,200 ECP applications over a sixmonth span, ensuring farmers and ranchers could acquire water resources for livestock, and new water pipelines and stock dams to help with fire suppression activities in dry, rural parts of the state.

Our staff of eight preservationists continues to do outstanding work each and every day to make South Dakota's communities better. For more information about historic preservation programs, resources and activities, please visit http://history.sd.gov/Preservation/ or call (605) 773-3458.



District. In addition, four other Tax Mortarium benefit.

MUSEUM

Jay Smith, Museum Director for the South Dakota State Historical Society Museum since 2012, retired from the position in November 2021. Under Smith's leadership, the Museum became a Smithsonian Affiliate in 2013. That same year, Smith served as the staff liaison for the loan of the Great Sioux Horse Effigy to an international touring exhibition, "The Plains Indians: Artists of Earth and Sky." He also led the effort to con-



A tin of Pipal's Healing Salve made in Academy and a brothel sign from the Black Hills were donated to the Museum this year.

vert the Observation Gallery on the Cultural Heritage Center's second floor. In December 2020, Corey Christianson started work as the Collections Management Specialist. She has been barcoding the collection and updating the museum's computer database records.

Beginning Oct. 1, 2020, all South Dakota residents were able to visit the South Dakota State Historical Society Museum free of charge. Out-of-state admission fees were adjusted to \$8 for adults, \$7 for AAA members and \$6 for visitors over 60 years old.

"South Dakota's Wardrobe: Selected Items from the Collection" opened in the Hogen Gallery in June 2021. Items in the exhibit range from work clothes to formal wear for both men and women from the 19th into the 21st century. The famous Pheasant Dress, featuring a complete pheasant bustle, is a highlight of the collection.

The Museum added 103 artifacts to its collection in 2021. Notable among these donations are a brothel sign from the Black Hills Gold Rush days for "Diddlin' Dora's" establishment in Belle Fourche and a patent medicine tin for "Pipal's Healing Salve" made by the Pipal Remedy Company in Academy. The tin's box advertised the wonders of the salve in several languages, reflecting South Dakota's immigrant roots.

In December 2021, four works by Oscar

Howe were sent to the Smithsonian for an exhibit opening in spring 2022. The exhibit will be at the National Museum of the American Indian in New York, the Portland Art Museum and the South Dakota Art Museum.

COVID-19 caused the Museum to change in-house programming for 2021 from a make-and-take format that brought visitors in to do hands-on projects to a take-to-make format where visitors picked up materials and instructions and took projects home to complete. Our take-to-make events drew 340 visitors. After being completely shut down in March 2020 by COVID, the Museum's education kit program picked back up. We are on track to have kits out to over 77 venues with over 2,000 users in 2021.

Off-site programs in 2021 were held for the Stanley County GOLD afterschool program in Fort Pierre and the White Rock Colony School in Roberts County. The Museum also hosted the South Dakota History Conference online through a digital, accessible format in April and participated digitally in the South Dakota Indian Education Conference in November 2021.

Lastly, the Museum hosted "Measuring South Dakota" at the Capital Lake Visitors Center in Pierre in August 2021, which allowed visitors to explore three historical measuring methods.

Museum of the South Dakota State Historical Society Staff

Corey Christianson Ronette Rumpca Katy L. Schmidt

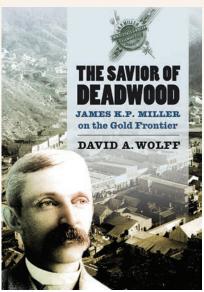
Research and Publishing Staff

Dedra McDonald Birzer,
Director
Mary Andino
Sarah Dozier
Cody Ewert
Jennifer McIntyre

RESEARCH AND PUBLISHING

Continuity amidst change sums up 2021 for Research and Publishing. While our high-quality publications continued to garner awards and our book sales climbed back to pre-COVID levels, we also welcomed one new staff member and bid farewell to another.

Mary Andino joined us as an associate editor in May, shortly after receiving a doctorate in history. Managing Editor Michael Burns accepted a position at the Marine Corps University Press in July. Cody Ewert is now Managing Editor of both the "South Dakota History" quarterly journal and of SDHS Press.



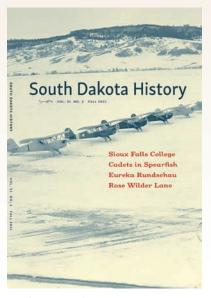
"The Savior of Deadwood" by David Wolff provides a fresh look into the development of the Black Hills.

One major highlight for 2021 occurred at the annual meeting of the Western History Association in October, when Gerard Boychuk's article, "Not a Tinker's Damn': The Politics of Suffrage in the South Dakota Election of 1918," received the Michael P. Malone Award for Best Article on State History. This article appeared in the Fall 2020 issue of "South Dakota History."

The SDHS Press released four new books in 2021. The delightfully whimsical "Charlie Russell and the Gnomes of Bull Head Lodge" came out in early April. Written by Emily Crawford Wilson and illustrated by Jeanne Bowman, "Charlie Russell" narrates a tale for children based on the gnomes that Russell crafted as guardians of his Lake McDonald cabin. David Wolff's "The Savior of Deadwood: James K. P. Miller on the Gold Frontier" hit the shelves in late May, offering the story of a largely forgotten man whose vision transformed Deadwood from a gold

camp into a permanent town. Sandy Barnard's contribution to the South Dakota Biography Series, "George Armstrong Custer: A Military Life," was released in June. Barnard provides a balanced portrait of this controversial western figure.

The Pioneer Girl Project, led by Nancy Tystad Koupal, released its third volume in October. "Pioneer Girl: The Revised Texts" is a monumental work of scholarship on Laura Ingalls Wilder and Rose Wilder Lane, documenting the process through which Wilder would ultimately become an icon of young adult literature.



The fall issue of "South Dakota History" explored many topics, including Army cadets stationed in Spearfish and German language newspapers.

Now in its 51st year, "South Dakota History" included excerpts from William J. Bulow's autobiography and Rose Wilder Lane's "Behind the Headlight," along with articles on Black Hills mapping, Indian rights advocates, missionary children, Sioux Falls College, World War II Army Air Forces Cadets in Spearfish, the German language press, preservation efforts in Rapid City, Vermillion's Carnegie libraries and the Dakota Wesleyan observatory.

Research and Publishing also compiled three issues of the "History Notes" newsletter and featured new monthly blogs as well as old favorites on our website, sdhspress. com. Books and back issues of "South Dakota History" may be ordered on the website. New blogs were also posted on the Pioneer Girl Project website, pioneergirlproject.org. We maintained a healthy presence on social media as well, especially on Facebook and Twitter (@sdhspress), and added a Twitter handle for the journal (@sodakhistory).

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY DONORS, 2021

The South Dakota State Historical Society is pleased to receive donations of books, manuscripts, photographs, artifacts and services. The society thanks the following individuals and organizations for contributing to the preservation of South Dakota's heritage through their generous gifts to the archives and museum collections.

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STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & FOUNDATION VOLUNTEERS, 2021

Volunteers help to preserve and interpret South Dakota history as they greet, guide, research, and perform other vital tasks for our organizations. We thank the following individuals for sharing their time, talents, and treasures with us at the Cultural Heritage Center, Archaeological Research Center, Foundation, various archaeological sites, and other venues related to special projects. It would be impossible for us to exist without their dedication.

Scott Ahola Frank Allen Liz Almlie Katherine Althoff Robert Arnold Karen Authier Carol Axtman Mike Baker Julie Bartling Kent P. Blansett Lauren Bleeker Jan Brockel Patricia Brown Britta Brusven Mary Buchholz Daniel Burniston Misti Burns Lois Byrum Paige Carda Jody Carlson Molly Carmody Angie Christiansen Grace Clark Richmond L. Clow Gary Crosby Molly Daniel Jan Deis Cindy Eilers Margaret Ellefson Megan Ernst Roberta Forman Lauren Forsch Tim Forsch Sara Frankenstein Shirleen Fugitt Jacqualyn Fuller Kristin Gabriel

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The Foundation honored and thanked its generous volunteers at the annual Volunteer Appreciation Event in November 2021.

Andrew Yaeger

South Dakota Historical Society Foundation

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FOUNDATION

2021 was a year of transition. The announcement of several promising COVID-19 vaccines was a much-needed shot of good news. As leisure travel bounced back and consumer confidence began to return, so did spending. The Foundation's Heritage Stores beat profit expectations despite supply chain issues. Sales on South Dakota art, books, jewelry, unique gifts and more were up 125 percent over 2019. Fortunately, our vendors came through for us with their local products.

April, the governor's In delegation of Her Vote. Her Voice. (HVHV) wrapped up the education and advocacy work of the women's history initiative. The next step is to start work on a statewide oral history project. A task force has been formed to serve as advisors for the project. We extend our gratitude to the HVHV corporate sponsors First PREMIER Bank / PREMIER Bankcard, BankWest, Lawrence & Schiller and Midco. A special thanks goes out to other generous supporters: F. L. Clarkson Family Foundation, Hon. Karen Schreier and Tim Dougherty, Linda Lea

Viken and Hon. Jeffrey Viken, Steve Zellmer and Kitty Kinsman, Tim and Catherine Forsch and others.

We found new ways to use technology to broaden our outreach and create greater access to history. The podcast "History 605" explores the history of South Dakota and the Midwest. State Historian Dr. Ben Jones interviews guests about books, artifacts and historic sites. The Scotty Philip Memorial Fund and the Florence and Marvin Hogan endowment funded 14 episodes.

A special thank you goes out to other generous supporters, including the South Dakota Humanities Council, Gary and Connie Grittner for a gift to preserve the American Legion Post 8 cabin and leadership gifts from Dana and LaDawn Dykhouse, Curt and Kim Mortenson, Michael and Barbara Lewis, Dan and Arlene Kirby, Andre Roby and Cynthia Lillibridge.

The board added a vital role to the Foundation team with the addition of Nancy Tapken, Strategic Partnership Developer. We encourage you to welcome her. Long-



Her Vote. Her Voice. committee member Angie Christianson created 20 prints that depicted women active in the suffrage movement.

time staff member Dorinda Daniel retired in December. Dorinda served the State Historical Society and Foundation for 16 years. We congratulate her. Retiring from the Foundation board are Jack Weck and John Teupel. Weck served as vice president of the board. Teupel has been on the board since 2006 and served as board president from 2013 to 2018. We will miss their leadership and thank them for their service. Recently elected are Patricia Miller, president; Eric Jensen, vice president; Sue Gates, secretary and Val Simpson, treasurer. Additionally, two new members joined the board: Julie Breu and Tony Venhuizen.

We are grateful to those who financially supported us during these turbulent times. Thank you. Your generosity and loyalty have inspired us. History has never been more important than it is right now. When the stories of this century are written, your unwavering commitment to preserving, educating and studying the past will be an outstanding example for future generations. We are stronger because of you.

2021 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

Through the loyal support of donors to the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation and State Historical Society, we are able to fund the work of preserving and presenting the rich, diverse history of our state, for this we say, "THANK YOU!" You help us to "Keep History Alive!"

\$50,000+

South Dakota Humanities Council

\$25,000 - \$49,999

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2022 Book Club Schedule

February 10, 2022 Cindy Wilson "The Beautiful Snow"

March 3, 2022 Katherine Sharp Landdeck "The Women With Silver Wings"

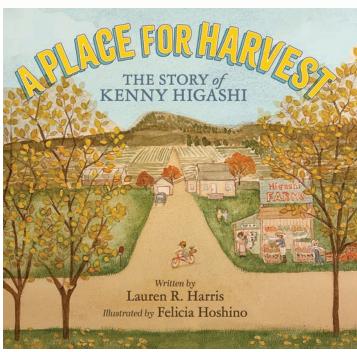
April 7, 2022 Lauren Harris "A Place for Harvest: The Story of Kenny Higashi"

May 12, 2022 Virginia Wright-Petersen "A Woman's War, Too: Women at Work During World War II"

HISTORY AND HERITAGE BOOK CLUB

Join us virtually via Zoom or in person at the Cultural Heritage Center for the History and Heritage Book Club. Each monthly book club gathering features a book about South Dakota, the Northern Great Plains or a major historical event. The author will speak about their book and then answer questions.

Our March, April and May book club events focus on World War II, offering additional perspectives to the sessions that will be offered at the SDSHS Annual History Conference. To attend any event ei-



Lauren Harris, the author of SDHS Press book "A Place for Harvest," will present at the History and Heritage Book club in April.

ther in person or virtually, register online at https://www.sdhsf.org/events.html. All events are free to the public and begin at 7:00 p.m. central time. For more information, email Dedra.Birzer@state.sd.us or call (605) 773-4371.