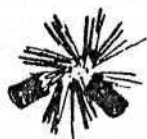


MADISON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



P. O. Box 1031

Norfolk, Nebraska 68702-1031

VOLUME 19 - NUMBER 76

July 1998

4th QUARTER

ESTABLISHED JUNE, 1973

Meeting date and time - 3rd Tuesday of each month not including December

7:30 p.m. - First Baptist Church - 404 Benjamin Ave., Norfolk, NE.

OFFICERS: President - Audrey Polenske

Vice President - Charlene Kolterman

Secretary - Ginger Houser

Treasurer - Donald and Dorothy Monson

Newsletter Editors - Joyce Borgelt and Jeanne Rix

Library located at home of Harold Lyon, 604 So. 14th Street, Norfolk, NE Phone 402-371-2589



DUES: Due September 1 of each year

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I cannot believe that another three months have sped by and again it's time for another quarterly to be sent out.

Even these hot muggy days travel with great speed. That is good too at least one doesn't become bored.

Lately the newspapers seem to be full of many family gatherings. Some gatherings are just a celebration for a family and their decendents, some a conglomeration of many families with one common denominator 'their surname' and other people who joined the clan through marriages.

Madison County Genealogical Society had our annual election of officers for the coming year which begins September 1998 through August 1999.

President is Audrey Polenske, Vice-President Charlene Kolterman; Treasurers Donald and Dorothy Monson; and Secretary Ginger Hauser.

I wish the best for each of the newly elected officers. May you have a productive year.

Sincerely,

Lottie Klein

Lottie Klein



Military and Civilians Drifting Farther Apart

WASHINGTON

Memorial Day was once far more than an occasion for hitting the beaches or firing up the barbecue. It was an immensely serious commemoration of the nation's war dead that began after the Civil War in spontaneous popular efforts to honor soldiers who died defending the union.



As best we can tell, the first Memorial Day was organized by a druggist named Henry C. Welles in Waterloo, N.Y., in 1865. It became a semi-official holiday, known first as Decoration Day, in 1868, thanks to Gen. John A. Logan, the commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Union veterans' organization. Logan issued a proclamation designating May 30 as an occasion for "decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion."

"If other eyes grow dull and other hands slack, and other hearts cold in the solemn trust," Logan declared, "ours shall keep it well as long as the light and warmth of life remain in us."

There are many among veterans and the patriotic whose eyes don't grow dull during this holiday. But in the rush to create long weekends, the specific purpose of Memorial Day has receded in memory. Its loss reflects a growing and worrying divide between those who serve in the military and everyone else.

The Union army and, later, the military forces who fought World War II were — very imperfectly, to be sure — a reflection of the country. Now, military culture is becoming ever more a culture of its own. In a democracy, it's a bad idea to let the gap grow too large.

One of the most thoughtful students of this problem is Thomas Ricks, a Wall Street Journal reporter whose book on the training of a Marine platoon, "Making the Corps," has drawn much praise. In an article in The Atlantic Monthly last July, Ricks traced the widening gap to two factors.

"First, more than 20 years after the end of conscription, the ignorance of American elites about the military has deepened," he wrote. "Second, with the end of the Cold War, the United States has entered into historically unexplored territory.

"If the Cold War is indeed considered to have been a kind of war, then for the first time in American history, the nation is maintaining a large military establishment during peacetime, with 1.5 million people on active duty. ..."

A young military officer I spoke with recently ascribed the military-civilian alienation specifically to the Vietnam War and to the unfair blame that veterans suffered because of the war's unpopularity. Returning veterans who felt snubbed by their country understandably recoiled. My sister, a captain in the Navy Reserves, notes that many Vietnam vets made careers in the military because it was the one place they felt welcome. The fact that some in the Vietnam generation served and others got off deepened resentments.

The flip side is that Vietnam bred a skepticism about the military deeper than anything the country experienced during World War II, when the obligations of service were more widely shared. As the philosopher Richard Rorty notes in his new book, "Achieving Our Country," Vietnam let words such as "imperialism," "chauvinism" and "militarism" into the popular vocabulary, first on the left and then elsewhere. He notes that this view contrasts with the idea of a "moral and patriotic nationalism" that characterized America, including the reformist left, before Vietnam.

Ricks notes another factor: Many in the military now contrast the success of their institution in combating racism, drug abuse, disrespect, undiscipline and a "me first" selfishness with the rather different picture they see outside the service. He quotes an Army major who says that "instead of viewing themselves as the representatives of society," officers "believe they are a unique element within society."

Ricks is careful to say that you can both romanticize the past and exaggerate the current problem. Four dec-

ades ago, political scientist Samuel Huntington observed that for much of our country's history, the military has had "the outlook of an estranged minority." Thanks to my sister and her husband (who is also a Reserve captain), I could report on scores of conversations with military people who are not in the least bit estranged. In fact, many of the military people I've met are more versed in the obligations of democracy than the rest of us — which ought to shame us civilians.

But the waning of Memorial Day as a national rite underscores the alienation of military and civilian culture as a problem for our democracy. Healing the breach is, as General Logan might tell us, the "solemn trust" of civilian and military leaders.

Omaha World Herald--
May 26, 1998



Different name

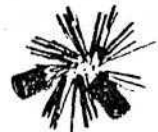
NORFOLK — Long before Highway 81 was called "Johnny Carson Boulevard" it was known as the Meridian Highway and the Pan-American Highway.

It was named the Meridian Highway because it was near and parallel to the 81st meridian used in global navigation. During the "Dirty Thirties," a group of golfers promoted and built a golf course west of the highway and named it "Meridian Golf Course." Due to the drought years and the fact that it was said that a golfer would have to be "part mountain goat" to successfully walk and play the nine holes, the course lost its popularity and it was closed.

For many years, Highway 81 was also known as the "Pan-American Highway" because it extended from the Canadian border to the tip of South America.

ROBERT CARLISLE

Norfolk Daily News
May 16, 1996





THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO OUR FLAG

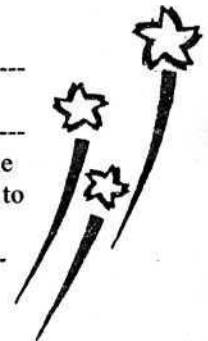
The Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag should be given in a non-hurried, strong, clear voice with a pause after each comma. It should not be recited in a "sing-song" monotone as something to finish in a hurry. Giving the Pledge means that we are ready to defend the Flag against all enemies, foreign and domestic. That we respect it as the symbol of our country. Established and maintained by many men and women who gave their time, their health, their fortunes, that we might live today as free people. A spirit of dedication to and love of our Flag, should be evident by those giving the Pledge.

In order to understand the emphasis that should be given to the words and phrases of the Pledge, the following two-column presentation should be studied.



In the left-hand column are the words of the Pledge and those that should be given emphasis are underlined. In the right-hand column, the meaning and significance of these words and phrases are explained.

Words and Phrases of the Pledge	Their meaning
<u>I</u> pledge	Giving one's word - earnest and sincere and faithful
to the <u>flag</u> of the United States of America	The Flag is the symbol or badge of our country. It stands for our Nation's greatness and the law of the land. It stands for Americanism and is the banner of the United States of America. As long as men love liberty, as long as truth, justice and charity remain deeply rooted in human hearts, it shall be known as "Old Glory".
and to the <u>Republic</u>	Our government as established by the Constitution is a Republic. It is a government with limited rights and powers given by the Constitution and by laws enacted by Congress. It is a representative Republic. The voters and Congressmen to represent them in Congress. The power of the government remains with the voters. The Republic is the servant of the people - not the master.
for which it <u>stands</u>	Our Flag is the symbol of our Republic and all that it means--freedom from tyrannical government bought with suffering and blood by our forefathers. It means the many rights of citizenship - a pledge to maintain, stand for, and support our form of government.
<u>one nation</u> under God	Our Declaration of Independence and our Constitution recognizes God as the foundation of our nation. These four words mean that our Nation and God cannot be separated from each other. There should be no pause after the word "Nation" so no comma is used.
<u>indivisible</u>	The nation cannot be divided or separated into parts. All of our States are a part of one nation. They cannot become independent, or leave the nation to form a new nation.
with <u>liberty</u>	Freedom - the rights of others are respected - freedom of religion, speech, meeting with others; freedom to ask the government to correct any unfair practice. Acting as one desires, if this does not interfere with the rights of others.
and <u>justice</u>	That which is right, fair, reasonable - truth and honor, fair play, square dealing.
for <u>all</u>	Our Declaration of Independence says "all men" (men, women, and children) have the rights of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness. Our Constitution promises these rights to all of the people. It says that no persons shall be deprived of their rights.



Source: Patriotic Education Inc. Alexandria VA

Iowans Cling to Fading Tracks Of the Underground Railroad

Denmark, Iowa (AP) — As a child trying to sleep in her grandparents' upstairs room, the trap-door opening into the slave hiding place frightened Gayla Young.

"I used to think, 'What if they left someone behind?'" Ms. Young said.

Of course, no one could have stayed tucked in that tiny hiding space for the 100 years since the last passenger traveled the Underground Railroad through southeast Iowa on the way to freedom. But Ms. Young's imagination ran as rapid as the runaways.

Citizens of the Lee County town of Denmark, founded by abolitionists from Quincy, Ill., knew what was going on around them. Hiding slaves was illegal in those pre-Civil War days. Getting caught by authorities could have meant prison. Getting caught by slavery advocates could have meant vigilante justice.

Denmark kept its secret.

"It was uppermost in their mind when they came out here to build their church and to help these people on the Underground Railroad," unofficial Denmark historian Linda Roxberg told the Burlington Hawk Eye. "They built their houses with that in mind."

Because of this, escaped slaves began to feel marginally safe when they spent the night in Denmark.

Ms. Young lives in the Deacon Theron Trowbridge house. Her grandparents bought it in the 1940s after it had stood empty for decades. They intended to tear it down and build on the site, but townspeople familiar with the building's history convinced them to rehabilitate the century-old structure. Ms. Young bought the house from her grandparents.

Trowbridge, a plasterer by trade, followed Asa Turner from Quincy because that Illinois town was too far south to be comfortable to men opposed to slavery.

"That was the reason he left," Ms. Young said. "He couldn't stomach their views on this."

Trowbridge built a small bookcase in the upstairs room with a trick back that opened into a tiny crawl space. It could have been nothing, hidden forever, but after Ms. Young's grandparents bought the house in the 1940s, they replaced the roof and found the space from the outside.

In what had been a hiding space, they found clothing, shoes and an 1851 copy of the "Anti-Slavery Bugle" newspaper.

There is no original documentation of these local efforts. What is known is based on stories handed down over the years. Old homeowners with odd-shaped or hidden rooms believe they all have a railroad connection. Sometimes all they have is an old root or wine cellar, a linen closet, coal bin or link to the original city system of gas lines.

Trying to define the Underground Railroad is like trying to pin down a



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A STOP ON THE PATH TO FREEDOM: Gayla Young, right, and her daughter, Stacey, of Denmark, Iowa, live in the Deacon Theron Trowbridge house that was used to aid slaves escaping anti-abolitionist areas. When Ms. Young's grandparents were replacing the home's roof in the 1940s, they discovered a bookcase with a false back that led to a tiny crawl space. Inside they found clothing, shoes and an 1851 copy of the "Anti-Slavery Bugle" newspaper.

shadow.

"There's rumors that the Phelps House (in Oquawka, Ill.) was a stop on it, but there's no way to prove it," Henderson County, Ill., Historical Society President John Allaman said. "It's pretty much a legend. It pretty well could have been. They didn't advertise it in those days."

The Lewelling Quaker House in the Henry County town of Salem has been turned into a museum celebrating the town's participation in the Underground Railroad movement. Like Denmark, two residents felt it was their religious duty to help slaves to freedom. Hendersen Lewelling, like Deacon Trowbridge and Asa Turner, built his house with trap doors and hiding places as a stop on the escape route.

"We just found this one three years ago when we had a man in here fixing the floor," museum volunteer Judy Feehan said, swinging open a counter-weighted floor panel to reveal a small space under the floor.

The Lewellings would have had throw rugs over the floor spaces, maybe even a table and chairs dragged over it.

On the wall of the museum, a map outlines various ways north. Denmark usually was the first overnight stop. Any farther south was too close to slave-owning Missouri and its bounty hunters. If they didn't run toward Salem, they may have headed to Burlington for assistance from First Congregational Church leader William Salter, who housed slaves in the barn behind his home.

Another destination was the 240 acres owned by Dr. Edwin Janes just outside Burlington. Slaves would arrive hidden under hay and straw on wagons

for a rest before heading on to Salem. Since the bridge between Denmark and Augusta on the Salem route was often guarded by bounty hunters, Janes would help slaves float across the Skunk River in barrels to friends on the other side.

Denmark held the promise of the promised land, with Asa Turner drawing other abolitionists. George Hutchinson came with his wife and eight children. They built the city's Congregational Church, later burned by anti-abolitionists, and stayed in close touch with the Burlington Congregational Church.

Many of the older homes in Denmark have been destroyed, but the stories continue. Ms. Roxberg, the historian, remembers her mother telling stories about playing in the secret hiding place at Asa Turner's house. It was a small room next to the chimney in the attic.

Turner's home is gone, as are so many others. Strange rooms and odd layouts are the only unofficial links to the railroad, and many of those are gone too.

As the remaining homes age, the responsibility for saving history rests with homeowners such as Ms. Young, who enthusiastically opens her home to students just as her grandmother did.

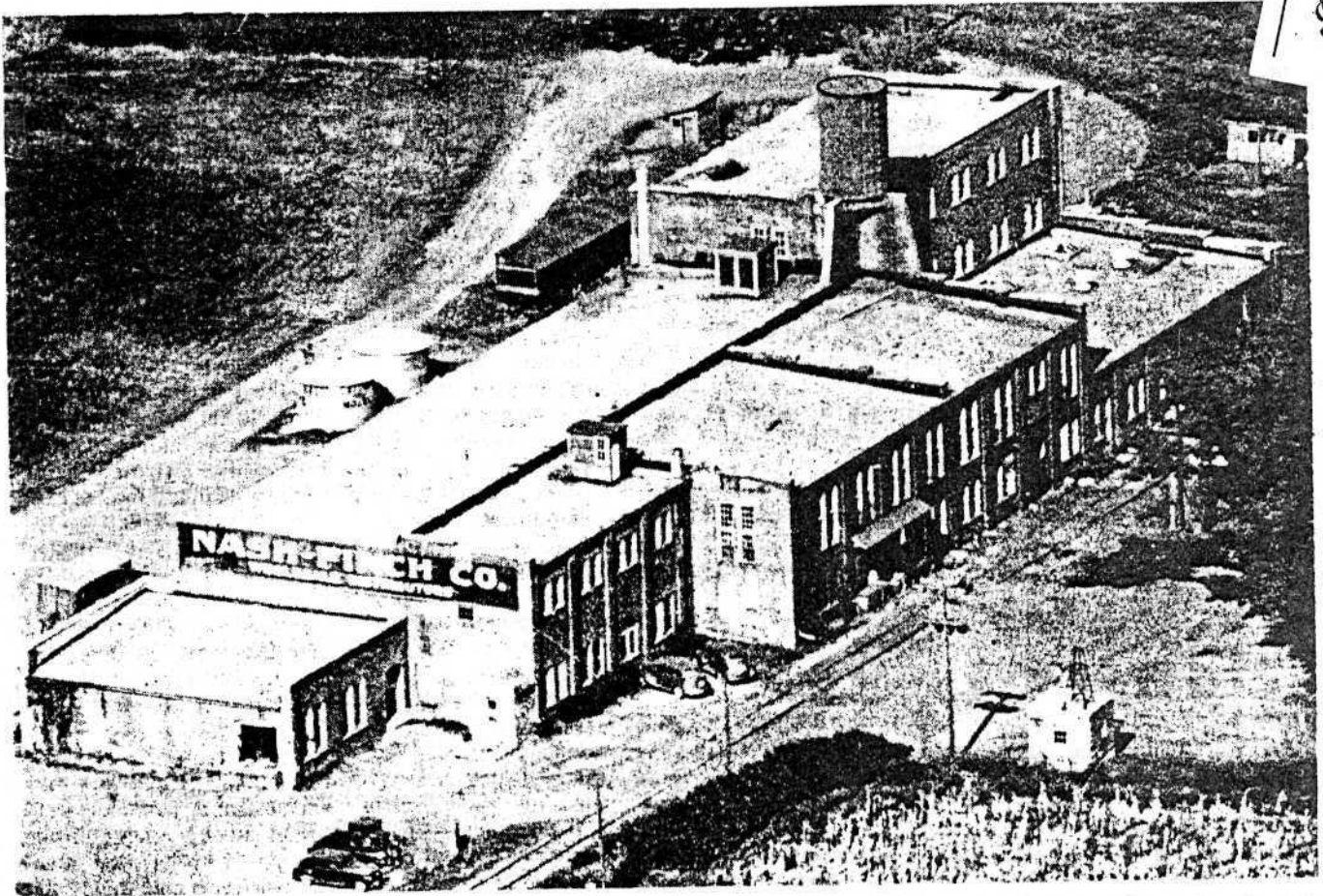
After her grandparents found the clothing and links to the railroad in their attic, they were visited by a busload of University of Iowa history students. As the bus prepared to leave, they realized there was a student missing.

In that upstairs bedroom, a young black man was sitting, wondering if the tiny hidden space ever held any of his relatives.

Omaha World Herald
date unknown

July, 1998 - 4th Quarter





OLD PACKING PLANT — The Nash Finch Co. operated out of the old Norfolk packing plant in the above photo which was taken in the late 1940s.

The building was erected in 1891 and was the site of employment for many Norfolks during its varied history.

BICENTENNIAL SHOWCASE



Norfolk Once 'Sugar City'



By DON McCABE

"A veritable temple of modern industry and enterprise" was built in Norfolk in 1891 and the city became the "Sugar City" for 12 years.

The "temple" was the American Beet Sugar factory which Norfolks had sought for in competition with 21 other cities for two years. Newspaper records show the factory was secured from Grand Island businessman Henry Oxnard, president of the American Beet Sugar Co, and built with just \$200,000.

The fortress was 300 feet by 100 feet with a 190 foot smoke stack. It was built as the result of a massive effort by

prominent Norfolk businessmen to bring outside industry and capital to the city:

So prized was the formidable structure that The Norfolk Daily News printed a Red Letter Edition on its completion in Sept. 15, 1891, just as it had done when construction began less than a year before.

At its peak more than 250 were employed at the plant. The beets were grown locally and shipped by wagon and train to the plant.

After the beets were harvested each fall, the plant began operation. The plant closed shortly after the first

of each year. In 1901, 7,000,000 pounds of sugar were produced.

Suddenly in 1902 operations ceased and machinery from the plant was taken to Lamar, Colo. Norfolk's reign as the "Sugar City" came quickly to a close.

The building, which once promised prosperity for Norfolk, still stands as one of the city's oldest landmarks. Located along Highway 81 north of the city, it is now vacant for the first time in many years. It was vacated May 17 when the Nash Finch Co., wholesale grocery, ceased its Norfolk operations after moving into the building in 1944.

Just why the beet factory closed was somewhat of a puzzle to townsfolk and farmers at that time. But evidently the American Beet Sugar Co. felt that the land could not produce enough beets, according to newspaper records.

Despite its opinion, area farmers felt a profit could be made from raising beets and enough could be grown. This was evidenced by the fact that they produced nearly three times as many beets the year after the factory closed as they did its final year.

After the beet factory left, the building and land were deeded back to Norfolk donors. The Norfolk In-



Once 'Sugar City'

Source--Norfolk Daily News--Sat. 14 June 1975

dustries Co. even attempted to raze the building but the nearly two foot thick walls and the four by nine beams of the factory were too solid.

An insurance agent was later to tell Nash Finch officials that the wood beams were better than steel beams because by the time they burned, the steel beams would have melted and given way.

In 1912, after being vacant for 10 years, the Norfolk Packing Co. began canning operations and the conveyor belts carried sweet corn instead of sugar beets.

Corn, however, was only one of the many vegetables processed at the cannery. Tomatoes, squash, cantaloupe, potatoes, pumpkins, beans and even sauerkraut were canned.

These vegetables were from local farms and from approximately 200 acres surrounding the plant which were owned by the packing company.

Fall again was a peak time for the building when it served as a cannery. After the produce was brought in by horse and wagon and sometimes truck it was washed, sorted, canned and shipped across the country.

During this time the Norfolk Packing Co. managed the plant's operations and Tolerton Warfield of Sioux City was the wholesale grocer which distributed the canned products to the various subsidiaries.

Ed Barr of Norfolk, one of the more than 150 employes of the packing company remembers some of those earlier years. He worked for more than 10 years on a labeling machine at the plant.

He said he worked for about \$15 a week and put in some long hours.

Mrs. Barr agreed, saying that some weeks their children got up and went to bed without even seeing their father.

"At that time," he said, "they tried to get as much work out of everyone as they could."

Cans were brought in from the Continental Can Co. by rail and Barr said the canned produce would be labeled according to which brand of corn or other produce was on order. Canning procedures would be somewhat different for each brand, he said.

Another employe, Martin Klawitter of Norfolk, said he worked for three years in the early 1920s as a common laborer.

According to Klawitter, the corn season was from the last of August until about the first of freeze of fall. While this was the peak time of year, he said pork and beans were canned most of the year.

He mentioned he still liked pork and beans, although after quitting the cannery he did not know whether he could ever eat "one more bean."

The sauerkraut made at the cannery brought back the memory of another cannery employe. Lester Drefke, also of Norfolk, said the sauerkraut left some strong odors lingering around the plant.

According to Barr, the packing company discontinued operations in late 1932 and moved to Plattsmouth because of cheaper freight rates.

The building served various purposes during the next decade. Klawitter said that Council Oak of Sioux City, subsidiary of Tolerton Warfield, used it as a warehouse until 1934.

In 1935, another food processing venture was attempted at the plant. Newspaper records indicate that Joe Zehnder of De Forest, Wis., leased the building from Tolerton Warfield and opened a cheese factory.

This, however, appears to have lasted for only a short while and the plant was vacant in less than a year. Until 1944 the plant stood vacant or was used for storing numerous items.

Norfolk's old plant was not destined for an early burial, however. In the fall of 1944, a fire ravaged the Nash Finch Co. operation in downtown Norfolk and in less than a week the firm was headquartered in the old packing plant.

Nash Finch continued there until May 17 when it ceased its Norfolk operation. Herman Rawie, manager, attributed the move to the more modern Nash Finch facilities at other cities and the "not so modern facilities at the plant."

Despite the closing, Rawie said he was still fond of the old building.

"If a tornado hit Norfolk," he said, "this would be the first place I would go."



LIBRARIES

The first library in Nebraska Territory was established during the winter of 1856-57 in Omaha, then still an unincorporated village less than three years old. A young men's association was directly responsible for this first Omaha Library Association. Dr. George L. Miller, who in 1865 became the founder and editor of the *Omaha Herald*, was elected president. To raise money for the project, a course of nine lectures on "elevated subjects" was conducted. The association cleared nearly eight hundred dollars.

This money was used to furnish and supply materials for a reading room, located on the second floor of the Western Exchange Bank Building at the southwest corner of Twelfth and Farnam Streets. A collection of nearly one hundred publications, including a wide selection of

newspapers, periodicals, and current literature was assembled for the use of those who had paid their membership fee in the Omaha Library Association.

The association grew and prospered during the following year. Gifts were donated to the book collection from such prominent citizens as Fenner Ferguson, the Nebraska territorial delegate to Congress, who secured a large collection of public documents. Eight books came from the University of the State of New York.

A full time librarian, E.V. Smith, had been employed by the association in 1857. In addition to attending to the collection of reading material, he also found time to make weather observations from the reading room. These were published

in the *Omaha Times*.

By the winter of 1859-60, however, the library association was declining. Unstable financial backing, hard economic times, and dissension among the association members caused it to cease operating a little more than three years after its establishment.

By the *Nebraska State Historical Society*

Via--
Battle Creek Enterprise--
April 29, 1998



Congratulations to George and Joyce Barlow on their 50th anniversary.

Historical Society takes to Web



LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — More than a century ago, Solomon D. Butcher fought insects, Sandhills weather and temperamental photography equipment to document the settlement of Nebraska.

Soon, all it will take is a click of a mouse to see Butcher's monumental work.

The Library of Congress recently announced the Nebraska State Historical Society was one of 11 cultural and historical institutions to receive grants in the National Digital Library Competition. Nearly 70 applications from 30 states competed for the grants.

The society received \$65,464 to digitize Butcher's work, a collection that includes 3,000 photographs taken between 1886 and 1912. The pioneer photographer worked actively in the Great Plains, including Custer, Dawson, Buffalo and Cherry counties in Nebraska. His photos of sod houses appear in text books and histories of the American West.

The grant also will allow the society to make a digital record of the letters of the Uriah Oblinger family. In 1873, Oblinger came from Indiana to Nebraska, where he homesteaded in Fillmore County. The letters he exchanged with his fiancée and other family members are considered one of the most eloquent and personal accounts of the pioneer experience.

The photos and letters will be linked through American Memory, an Internet site run by the Library of Congress. The exhaustive digital library of American history serves as a gateway for Americans to discover their past, said John Carter, curator of photographic collections for the state Historical Society.

The appeal of making historical documents available on the Internet is that time and distance will no longer hamper their use.

"These collections will be as usable and available to the finest scholars in the United States as they will be to sixth-grade students in Arthur or Scottsbluff," Carter said.

The project will start in July and is expected to take more than a year.

Being selected should be a source of pride for all Nebraskans, Carter said.

"While I don't think Nebraskans have to apologize to other states for our history... what this proves is that Nebraska is at the heart of the American saga," he said.

NORFOLK DAILY NEWS, TUESDAY.

MAY 26, 1998



National Archives destroys collection of historic records

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Naval Research Laboratory boxed up a vast collection of its records last fall — some telling of the development of radar and sonar and the early days of the U.S. space program — and sent them to the National Archives for safekeeping. In a bureaucratic foul-up, archives officials destroyed them instead.

After a four-month investigation, Archivist John Carlin, the government's chief records keeper, issued a 28-page report on what went wrong Friday and promised to reform his agency's procedures.

But he stopped short of apologizing to the Navy.

"Established procedures were correctly followed in the disposal of these records," Carlin said. "Nonetheless, records of historical value were destroyed. Therefore significant changes need to be made, and will be."

Destroyed — "pulped beyond recognition" is the archives' term for it — were 4,200 bound scientific

notebooks and approximately 1.5 million pages of correspondence and technical memos.

"The historical record of our nation's scientific and technological heritage has suffered a serious and irreparable loss," protested Rear Adm. Paul G. Gaffney II, chief of naval research, in a letter to Carlin when the loss was discovered.

He said the records "chronicle some of the most significant technical achievements in the 20th Century."

Among them, Gaffney said, were records kept by American pioneers in high frequency radio and the development of radar, the use of those technologies against Japan and Germany in World War II, "pathbreaking" acoustic and oceanographic research, the early history of the American space program with V-2 and Viking rockets and records of the first U.S. satellite program and rocket-based astronomical research.

An archives investigation blamed a breakdown in communication be-

tween the archives and the Navy.

While the archives thought the records could be destroyed unless they met all the specified criteria for their retention, the Naval Research Laboratory thought the records would be retained if any of the criteria were met, the report said.

From now on, Carlin said, an originating agency would be sent a notice by certified mail when records are scheduled for destruction. Earlier, the archives said it sent a notice but the Navy said it had not received it.

Carlin said he has sought funds from Congress to revise the way the archives works with other agencies to evaluate and decide the disposition of records.

In the meantime, he said, the archives will not dispose of scientific records. The processes the archives and agencies use for deciding what to destroy "are almost entirely paper-based, inefficient and not customer oriented," he said.



The Sioux City Journal, 25th April, 1998

via--Woodbury Co. Gen. Society, Sioux City, IA--Summer, 1998





Norfolk history is shared

A couple area residents passed along a copy of a column written by historian Jim McKee that was originally published in the Lincoln Journal Star.

McKee chose to share a little Norfolk history with that newspaper's readers. On the chance that some local and area residents may be a little light in the history area, we thought we'd share his comments with Daily News readers. Here they are:

How you pronounce "Norfolk" will tell if you're a "true Nebraskan." That's because the spelling of the town's name reflects the ignorance of federal bureaucrats.

In 1865, a German Lutheran congregation in Ixonia, Wis., met with the Rev. Hoeckendorf, who had sent a party into the Great Plains in search of a site for a new community. The scouts reported excellent conditions and sufficient land in the northeast corner of what is now Madison County on the north fork of the Elkhorn River.

In 1866, 44 men, women and children from the congregation packed up and moved to the area. William Sharpe, a surveyor, was hired to divide the tract into 160-acre parcels, ingeniously laid out so each plot had equal access to the creek.

By 1868, the area was large enough to consider a name and file a request for a U.S. Post

Office. Col. Charles P. Mathewson, a U.S. Indian agent for the Omaha and Winnebago tribes, polled the residents, who said they wanted the name of the proposed city and post office to reflect the location on the north fork of the river. They submitted the name Nor'fork or, some say, Nordfork. Word came from Washington, D.C., on June 8, 1868, naming Mathewson the first postmaster of "Norfolk." The federal officials assumed the residents had simply misspelled the town they wanted to name after the ones in Virginia and England.

That summer, Mathewson set up a pit saw consisting of a trench deep enough for a man to stand at the bottom and guide a large saw with the help of a man above. Thus, a large log could be cut lengthwise quite easily. As soon as a proper water-powered saw mill could be built, Mathewson added a grist mill and store on the site. The next year, another store was opened by John Olney, and in 1870 Mathewson completed the first frame house in the fledgling village.

The town grew slowly until 1879 when the Omaha, Niobrara & Black Hills Railroad convinced Norfolk to vote a \$13,000 bond to build a depot. That railroad was followed in short order by the Chicago, St. Paul, Minnesota & Omaha. The year 1881

saw Norfolk's incorporation; the population hit 1,000 and the city advertised itself as having three general stores, three banks, two furniture stores, two lumber yards, several churches, two newspapers and many smaller businesses.

Madison County, established in 1865, had no official status or officers until the first election was held at a cabin on Taylor Creek in 1868. The county seat was placed near Norfolk, but when no community developed, the seat was casually and unofficially moved into Norfolk.

In 1875, two elections were held to determine the county seat, with Battle Creek, Madison and Norfolk vying for the honor. No city received a three-fifths majority. Norfolk did not get even two-fifths of the total vote, so it was dropped from the third ballot. In the final contest on Oct. 12, 1875, Madison defeated Battle Creek 368 to 362; fraud was claimed, but the county seat remained in Madison.

Today, Norfolk's population is about 10 times that of Madison but the county seat, which briefly existed in Norfolk, seems to exist peacefully and permanently in Madison.

Source-Norfolk Daily News
15 Oct. 1997



23rd PSALM FOR GENEALOGISTS

Genealogy is my Pastime, I shall not stray
It maketh me to lie down and examine half-buried Tombstones
It leadeth me into still Courthouses,
It restoreth my Ancestral Knowledge

It leadeth me in the Paths of Census Records and ships Passenger Lists for my Surnames' sake
Yea, though I walk through the shadows of Research Libraries and Microfilm Readers,
I shall fear no Discouragement; for a Strong Urge is within me
The Curiosity and Motivation, they Comforteth me
It Demandeth preparation of Storage Space for the Acquisition of countless Documents
It Anoints my Head with burning Midnight Oil,
My Family Group Sheets runneth over

Surely Birth, Marriage and Death Dates shall follow me all the Days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the House of a Family History Seeker Forever.





WHO ARE THE SCOTS-IRISH?



Back when King James I was King of England, in an effort to be able to deal with Ireland, he sent some English subjects from the border area between England and Scotland over to northern Ireland. These lowland Scots were mixed in their ancestry with English people and were not the same ilk as the Highland Scots who were a purer ilk of Scot. They survived living in northern Ireland and built themselves a viable economy, but then the English government started playing with it and made it difficult for them to succeed by preventing them from being able to deal with other countries and made them sell only to England, thus England could get the profits of the sale of their goods (mostly linens, wool products, etc.) The area of northern Ireland became known as Ulster and took in several counties.

By the early 18th century things got to be unbearable for the Ulster Scots and they began to look outward for a new place to live. Some of the earlier Ulster Scots had come to America and sent back good reports of the availability of land and the atmosphere of more freedom over here, so in the 1730's there was a very high wave of emigration from Ulster to America. Some went into New England and New York, but most came into the middle colonies of Maryland and Delaware and into Pennsylvania. They still had not found a permanent home, so they trickled down the valley of Virginia into the Carolinas and then eventually some moved on south and west, always on the fringe of civilization.

I'm quite proud of my Scots-Irish ancestors. They made some of the best soldiers during the Revolution and gave America a lot of its spunk. They always built schools and they were predominantly Presbyterian by religion. This is probably oversimplifying it, but it's my basic understanding of Ulster Scot or Scots-Irish. The colonials called them Irish, but they named themselves Scots-Irish. They may have been in Ireland only a couple of generations but that didn't make them Irish. They were Scotsmen through and through.

You are using the proper term when you say Scots, not Scotch. Any Scotsman will tell you that Scotch is a drink. For more information see *Albion's Seed* by David Hackett Fischer. It dis-

cusses the four British folkways in America. It's a pretty interesting book. And there have been some wonderful books done of the Ulster Scots in America including some history in Scotland and Ireland on these families.

—from Barbara Petty via Fidonet; via Lee Co. GS



SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAPS

Many people who are researching their American ancestors have found the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps very helpful, but they do not provide information for everyone. The maps were designed to give detailed information about commercial districts in cities. Usually residential areas were included only if they were one to three blocks from the business districts. Therefore, getting help from these maps depends upon the following:

- Did your ancestor have a store or a company of some kind?
- Did he live in a city's downtown area?

If so, the maps can reveal a lot about him. They can pinpoint his place of business or residence almost like a modern aerial map. They will show the exact shape and relative size of the building. They will describe its type of construction: brick, stone, concrete or wood. Sheds, garages, wells, and number of rooms will be shown. The map will reveal the neighbors and other businesses.

The maps were frequently updated. Therefore, if your ancestor's home happens to be on the maps, you can learn when the house was built and how it changed through the years, revealing when rooms were added and porches built on.

The maps were issued during the years 1882 to 1970. They were usually reissued at least once every five years.

These maps can be seen at the State Historical Society at Madison and most of its branches. The University of Wisconsin at Whitewater is one of the libraries which has the maps.

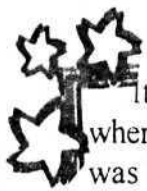
—from Walworth Co. GS, Aug 1995; via Kishwaukee Genealogists, Nov/Dec 1995

via Bureau County Genealogical Society--Nov. 1996





THE ORIGIN OF TAPS



It all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when a Union Army Captain, Robert Ellicombe, was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of this narrow strip of land. During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moan of a soldier who lay mortally wounded on the field. Not knowing whether it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gun fire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his own encampment. When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead.

The Captain lit a lantern. Suddenly, he went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son! The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, he enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, the heart-broken father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial despite his enemy status. This request was partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of army band members play a funeral dirge for the son at the funeral. That request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. Out of respect for the father, they did say that they could give him only one musician. The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform.

The wish was granted. The music was the haunting melody we now know as "Taps" used at a military funeral.


--found on the Internet



GENEALOGICAL BEATITUDES

- ◆ Blessed are the great-grandfathers who saved embarkation and citizenship papers, for they tell when they came.
- ◆ Blessed are great-grandmothers who hoarded newspaper clippings and old letters, for these tell the story of their time.
- ◆ Blessed are all grandfathers who filed every legal document, for this provided the proof.

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- ◆ Blessed are grandmothers who preserved family Bibles and diaries, for this is our heritage.
 - ◆ Blessed are fathers who elect officials that answer letters of inquiry, for to some they are the only link to the past.
 - ◆ Blessed are mothers who relate family tradition and legend to the family, for one of her children will surely remember.
 - ◆ Blessed are relatives who fill in family sheets with extra data, for to them we owe the family history.
 - ◆ Blessed is any family whose member strives for the preservation of records, for theirs is a labor of love.

--Author Unknown; taken from minutes of the 1971 convention of the Daughters of the Pioneers of Washington Bureau Co. Gen. Soc. May-Jun 1998



ARE YOU A FAMILY HISTORY "JUNKIE" ???

Several sources have reported that genealogy has now replaced stamp collecting as the No. 1 hobby in the United States.

If you are spending lots of your time working on your family history and still don't think of yourself as an "addicted genealogist," here's a little test.

1. Do you always brake for libraries?
2. If you were locked in that library overnight, would you notice?
3. Do you hyperventilate when you see an old cemetery not yet explored?
4. Would you rather browse in that cemetery than in a shopping mall?
5. Do you think every home should have a micro-film reader?
6. Is your closet carefully stacked with notebooks, books and journals while your clothes are stuffed under the bed?
7. Does all your correspondence begin, "Dear Cousin"?
8. Are you more interested in what happened in 1693 than what happened in 1993?
9. If you can find Harrietsham, Hawkhurst, Kent on a map of England -- but can't find Chicago on a map of the United States -- you know that you are an addicted genealogist.

--from The Times-Union, Jacksonville 6/17/96

Bureau Co. Gen. Soc. Jan-Feb. 1997



WAR CHART

by Daniel H. Burrows, <dburrows2@juno.com>
June 1997



WAR	DATES	AREA	WAR	DATES	AREA
French-Spanish	1565-67	Florida	Cherokee	1836-38	---
English-French	1613-1629	Canada	Osage Indian	1837	Missouri
Anglo-French	1629	St. Lawrence Riv.	Heatherly Disturbance	1836	Missouri
Pequot War	1636-37	New England	Mormon	1838	Missouri
???	1640-45	New Netherland	Aroostook	1839	Maine
Iroquois	1642-53		Dorr's Rebellion	1842	Rhode Island
		New England; Acadia	Mormon	1844	Illinois
Anglo-Dutch	July 1653	New Netherland	Mexican	1846-1848	Mexico
Bacon's Rebellion	1675-76	Virginia	Cayuse Indian	1847-48	Oregon
King Philip's	1675-76	New England	Texas & NM Indian	1849-55	---
War In North	1676-78	Maine	California Indian	1851-52	---
Culpepper's Reb'n	1677-80	Carolinas	Utah Indian	1850-53	---
Leisler's Rebellion	1688-91	New England	Rogue River Indian	1851, 1853, 1856	Oregon
Revolution in MD	1689	Maryland	Oregon Indian	1854	Oregon
Glorious Revolution	1689	New England	Nicaraguan	1854-58	Naval
King William's War	1689-97	Canada	Kansas Troubles	1854-59	Kansas
Queen Anne's	1702-13	New England	Yakima Indian	1855	Local
Tuscarora	1711-12	Virginia	Klamath & Salmon River Indian		
Jenkin's Ear	1739-42	Florida		1855	Ore. & Idaho
King George's	1740	GA & VA	Florida Indian	1855-58	Florida
Louisbourg	1745	New England	John Brown's Raid	1859	VA
Fort Necessity	1754	Ohio	War of Rebellion	1860-65	General
Anglo-French	1755-58	Canada	Cheyenne	1861-64	Local
French & Indian	1754-63	New Eng, VA	Sioux	1862-63	Minnesota
Siege of Quebec	1759	Canada	Indian Campaign	1865-68	OR, ID, CA
American Revolution	1775-83	USA	Fenian Invasion of Canada		
Wyoming Valley	1782-87	Pennsylvania		1866	From New England
Shay's Rebellion	12/1786-1/1787	Mass.	Indian Campaign	1867-69	KS, Colo. & Indian Territory
Whiskey Insurrection	1794	Pennsylvania			
Northwestern Indian	1790-95	Ohio	Modoc Indian	1872-73	Oregon
War with France	1798-1800	Naval	Apaches	1873	Arizona
War with Tripoli (Naval)	1801-05	North Coast Africa	Indian Campaigns	1874-75	KS, CO, TX, NM, & Indian Territory
Burr's Insurrection	1806-1807		Cheyenne & Sioux	1876-77	Dakota
		South Mississippi Valley	Nez Perce	1877	Utah
Chesapeake (Naval)	1807	Virginia	Bannock	1878	Idaho, Washington Territory & Wyoming Terr.
Northwestern Indian	1811	Indiana			
Fla. Seminole Indian	1812	Fla. (Ga. Volunteers)	White Riv. (Ute Ind.)	1879	Utah & Colorado
War of 1812	1812-15	General	Cheyenne	1878-79	Dakota & Mont.
Peoria Indian	1813	Illinois	Spanish-American	1898-99	Cuba
Creek Indian	1813-14	South	Phillippine Insurrection		
Lafitte's Pirates	1814	Local		1899-1902	Philippine Isl.
Barbary Pirates	1815	North Coast Africa			
Seminole Indian	1817-18	Fla & Ga.			
Lafitte's Pirates	1821	Galveston			
Arickaree Indian	1823	Missouri River; Dakota Territory			
Fever River Indian	1827	Illinois			
Winnebago Indian	1827	Wisconsin			
Sac & Fox Indian	1831	Illinois			
Black Hawk	1832	Illinois & Wisc.			
Toledo	1835-36	Ohio & Michigan			
Texan	1835-36	Texas			
Indian Stream	1835-36	New Hampshire			
Creek Indian	1836-37	Ga. & Ala.			
Florida (Seminole)	1835-42	FL, GA, AL			
Sabine / Southwestern Indian	1836-37	Louisiana			



LEAFY BRANCHES, Hastings, NE (Mar.-May 1998)



GETTING RESULTS BY MAIL

There are ways to enhance the quality of genealogical research conducted by mail. Whether corresponding with institutions, genealogists or other research sources, researchers can follow these simple rules for success:

1. Take your correspondence seriously. Write a professional looking letter that demands attention.
2. Do your homework. Find everything you can about the institution to which you are writing.
3. Don't expect the institution's personnel to do your research for you. They don't have the time, training, or inclination.
4. Use the complete, accurate address of the institution or person with whom you are corresponding.
5. Make one initial request, and make it as simple as possible. Explain what you need briefly and specifically. Don't clutter your letter with family information they don't need to know.
6. When asking for information about a specific person, give the person's name, locality, and time period from which information is sought.
7. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.
8. Offer to pay for copies and labor.
9. Include your complete, accurate address.
10. Date and make copies of all correspondence.
11. Send thank you notes for all responses to correspondence.

Source: *The Illiminator* via Church of Latter Day Saints/PPGS, March 1994, p.615

VIA The Homesteader Spring, 1994

EVERTON WORKSHOP IN NORFOLK OCTOBER 16, 1999

Mark this date on your **1999** calendar. Yes 1999 is right. Mark Saturday October 16, 1999 on your calendar. We will have an all day hands on Genealogical workshop presented by Everton Publishing sponsored by Madison County Genealogical Society Norfolk. Watch for further information.

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