

# South Dakota Research Outline

## Table of Contents

Records Of The Family History Library  
Family History Library Catalog  
Archives And Libraries  
Bible Records  
Biography  
Cemeteries  
Census  
Church Records  
Court Records  
Directories  
Emigration And Immigration  
Gazetteers  
Genealogy  
History  
Land And Property  
Maps  
Military Records  
Native Races  
Naturalization And Citizenship  
Newspapers  
Periodicals  
Probate Records  
Vital Records  
Comments And Suggestions

This outline describes major sources of information about families from South Dakota. As you read this outline, study the *United States Research Outline* (30972), which will help you understand terminology and the contents and uses of genealogical records.

## RECORDS OF THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

The Family History Library has few of the records listed in this outline. The major holdings include census, cemetery, histories, and Native American records. The library does not have copies of the county records of South Dakota.

Some of the sources described in this outline list the Family History Library's book, microfilm, and microfiche numbers. These are preceded by *FHL*, the abbreviation for *Family History Library*. These numbers may be used to locate materials in the library and to order microfilm and microfiche at Family History Centers.

## FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG

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The library's records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog found at the library and at each Family History Center. To find a record, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog for:

- The *place* where your ancestor lived, such as:

***UNITED STATES*** - CENSUS  
***SOUTH DAKOTA*** - GENEALOGY  
***SOUTH DAKOTA, BUTTE*** - CEMETERIES  
***SOUTH DAKOTA, BROWN, ABERDEEN*** - OBITUARIES

- The *record type* you want to search, such as:

UNITED STATES - ***CENSUS***  
SOUTH DAKOTA - ***GENEALOGY***  
SOUTH DAKOTA, BUTTE - ***CEMETERIES***  
SOUTH DAKOTA, BROWN, ABERDEEN - ***OBITUARIES***

The section headings in this outline match the names of record types used in the Family History Library Catalog.

## **ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES**

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The following archives, libraries, and societies have collections or services helpful to genealogical researchers.

- South Dakota State Historical Society

900 Governors Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501-2294  
Telephone: 605-773-3458  
Fax: 605-773-6041

Three divisions of the South Dakota Historical Society include materials of interest to genealogists. The Historical Society Library houses printed materials, while the Archives Division maintains original records of South Dakota government jurisdictions and other historical documents. The Manuscript Division preserves unpublished materials.

- National Archives and Records Administration—Rocky Mountain Region

P.O. Box 25307  
Denver Federal Center  
Denver, CO 80225

Telephone: 303-236-0817  
Fax: 303-236-9297

- National Archives—Central Plains Region

2312 East Bannister Road  
Kansas City, MO 64131-3011  
Telephone: 816-926-6272  
Fax: 816-926-6982

- South Dakota Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 1101  
Pierre, SD 57501  
Telephone: 605-224-3670

- I.D. Weeks Library

University of South Dakota  
414 E. Clark Street  
Vermillion, SD 57069  
Telephone: 605-677-5371  
Fax: 605-677-5488

- Center for Western Studies

P.O. Box 727  
Augustana College  
Sioux Falls, SD 57197  
Telephone: 605-336-4921  
Fax: 605-336-5447

To learn more about the history and record-keeping systems of South Dakota counties, use the nine inventories of county archives produced by the Historical Records Survey around 1940. The Family History Library has copies of most of these inventories.

## **Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards**

Computers with modems can be useful tools for obtaining information from selected archives and libraries. In a way, computer networks themselves serve as a library. The Internet, certain computer bulletin boards, and commercial on-line services help family history researchers:

- Locate other researchers
- Post queries

- Send and receive e-mail
- Search large databases
- Search computer libraries
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions

You can find computerized research tips and information about ancestors from South Dakota in a variety of sources at local, state, national, and international levels. The list of sources is growing rapidly. Most of the information is available at no cost.

Addresses on the Internet change frequently. As of April 1997, the following sites are important gateways linking you to many more network and bulletin board sites:

- USGenWeb

<http://usgenweb.org/>

A cooperative effort by many volunteers to list genealogical databases, libraries, bulletin boards, and other resources available on the Internet for each county, state, and country.

- Roots-L

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/roots-l/>

A useful list of sites and resources. Includes a large, regularly-updated research coordination list.

For further details about using computer networks, bulletin boards, and news groups for family history research, see the *United States Research Outline* (30972), 2nd ed., "Archives and Libraries" section.

## **FamilySearch™**

The Family History Library and some Family History Centers have computers with FamilySearch™. FamilySearch is a collection of computer files containing several million names. FamilySearch is a good place to begin your research. Some of the records come from compiled sources; some have been automated from original sources.

## **BIBLE RECORDS**

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The Daughters of the American Revolution have compiled some South Dakota Bible records. These are on microfilm at the Family History Library (FHL film 855209) and indexed in E. Kay Kirkham, *An Index to Some of the Bibles and Family Records of the United States*, vol. II (Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, 1984; FHL book Ref 973 D22kk v.2; fiche 6089184).

## BIOGRAPHY

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The best collection of published biographies in South Dakota is at the South Dakota Office of History in the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Building, East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD. Another biographical collection is found at the University of South Dakota at Vermillion. There is no statewide biographical index or major manuscript collection. Many statewide, regional, and county histories have biographical sections which can be searched. Examples of such books are:

*Memorial and Biographical Record: An Illustrated Compendium of Biography Containing a Compendium of Local Biography.* Chicago: G.A. Ogle Co., 1897. (FHL film 1000587 item 2.)

*Fox's Who's Who Among South Dakotans: A Biographical Directory of Citizens Who Are Prominent in Professional, Political, Business and Civic Affairs of the State.* 2 vols. Pierre, S.D.: Fox Kindley, 1929. (FHL film 1000589 items 6-7.)

Kingsbury, George Washington. *History of Dakota Territory and South Dakota: Its History and Its People By George Martin Smith.* 5 vols. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Co., 1915. (FHL book 978.3 H2k; films 1000584-86.) Volumes 4 and 5 contain biographical sketches.

Holley, Frances Chamberlain. *Once Their Home: or Our Legacy From the Dahkotahs.* Chicago: Donohue & Henneberry, 1892. (FHL film 1000589 item 5.)

## CEMETERIES

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There is no major statewide collection or index of cemetery transcriptions from South Dakota. The Family History Library has records from some graveyards in Butte, Lawrence, Pennington, and a few other counties. Tombstone inscriptions have also been published in some periodicals. See the *United States Research Outline* for suggestions on locating cemetery records.

## CENSUS

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### Federal

Many of the federal census records you'll want to use are found at the Family History Library and the National Archives and other federal and state archives. The *United States Research Outline* provides more detailed information about these records.

The Family History Library has the U.S. federal censuses for South Dakota for 1900, 1910, and 1920. The 1890 census has been destroyed. The 1890 veterans schedule and index are available at the Family History Library and at the National Archives.

A statewide soundex (phonetic) index is available on microfilm for the 1900 and 1920 censuses. The schedules and indexes are also available at the South Dakota State Historical Society.

## **Territorial and State**

South Dakota was included in the 1836 Wisconsin, the 1840 Iowa, the 1850 Minnesota (Pembina District), and the 1860, 1870, and 1880 Dakota territorial censuses.

Indexes to the federal censuses of the Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, and Dakota territories have been published in book and fiche format for 1836, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880. A partial soundex (phonetic) index is also available on microfilm for the 1880 census of Dakota Territory.

In addition to the federal censuses, territorial and state censuses exist for 1885 (Dakota territory), 1895, 1905, 1915, 1925, 1935, and 1945. Most of the 1895 census was destroyed. Unique information found in the 1905 to 1945 censuses includes ethnic background, education, maiden name, church affiliation, and military service.

The territorial and state censuses are at the South Dakota State Historical Society. The 1885 and 1895 censuses are also available at the Family History Library. The 1885 census has been indexed.

See the section on “Native Races” for information on tribal census reports.

## **CHURCH RECORDS**

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Before 1900 the largest religious groups in South Dakota were the Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist Episcopal, and Congregational churches. The Family History Library has very few church records from South Dakota, but it has histories for some denominations.

Many denominations have collected their records in central repositories. You can write to the following addresses to learn where their records are located:

### **Congregational**

Congregational Library  
14 Beacon Street  
Boston, MA 02108  
Telephone: 617-523-0470  
Fax: 617-523-0470

### **Lutheran**

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA Archives)  
8765 West Higgins Road  
Chicago, IL 60631-4198  
Telephone: 773-380-2818

Many of their records can be borrowed for a small fee. For a list of the church records in their collection, see FHL fiche 6330690-93.

### **Methodist**

Archives and History Library  
Dakotas Conference  
United Methodist Church  
1331 West University Boulevard  
Mitchell, SD 57301  
Telephone: 605-996-6552  
Fax: 605-996-1766

*Mailing Address:*

P.O. Box 460  
Mitchell, SD 57301

### **Roman Catholic**

Diocese of Rapid City  
Chancery Office  
606 Cathedral Drive  
Rapid City, SD 57709  
Telephone: 605-343-3541  
Fax: 605-348-7985

*Mailing Address:*

P.O. Box 678  
Rapid City, SD 57709  
Diocese of Sioux Falls  
Chancery Office

3100 West 41st Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
Telephone: 605-334-9861  
Fax: 605-333-3346

A dissertation about the history of the Catholic Church is Mary Claudia Duratschek, *The Beginnings of Catholicism in South Dakota* (Washington D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, 1943; FHL book 978.3 K2d; film 1036266 item 4).

## COURT RECORDS

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Major South Dakota courts that have kept records of genealogical value were established in 1889, when South Dakota became a state.

*Justices of the peace* have countywide jurisdiction over minor civil and criminal cases.

*Municipal courts* have citywide jurisdiction over minor civil and criminal cases.

*District county courts* have countywide jurisdiction over records of misdemeanors, minor civil cases, probates, guardianship, and juvenile matters.

*Circuit courts* have countywide jurisdiction over felonies, divorces, equity matters, misdemeanors, and some appeals.

*The Supreme Court* is the statewide appellate court.

The Family History Library does not have copies of court records for South Dakota. They are available at the clerk's office in the various county courthouses.

## DIRECTORIES

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Directories of heads of households have been published for major cities in South Dakota. For example, the Family History Library has directories for the following:

- Sioux Falls

1890-1891	FHL film 1000906
1902/3-1935	FHL films 1843231—
1941, 1962, 1968, 1976, 1980, 1982	FHL book 978.337/S1 E4p

- Rapid City

1934, 1936, 1960, 1965, 1971, 1975, 1980, 1981	FHL book 978.393 E4p
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## EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

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### People

During the first half of the nineteenth century, various Sioux (also called Dakota) tribes lived in the area that became South Dakota. These included the Santee, Teton, Yankton, and Yanktonnais tribes. The Dakota Sioux Indians comprise about five percent of the state's present population.

Most of the present inhabitants are descendants of pioneers who came to South Dakota before 1920. Pre-statehood settlers of South Dakota generally came from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Illinois. Many of the pre-1860 settlers were of Norwegian descent. Some came to southeastern South Dakota by covered wagon across northern Iowa or southern Minnesota. Others came by railway to St. Joseph, Missouri, then by steamboat up the Missouri River.

The first major influx of settlers began in 1863, after passage of the first Homestead Act. Homesteaders in the late 1860s and early 1870s came from the eastern and mid-western states. Many others came from Europe, including groups of Swedes, Danes, Czechs, and Germans from Russia. The Black Hills gold rush of 1875-1877 also attracted thousands of people.

The great Dakota land boom in northeastern and central South Dakota began in 1877 and reached its peak by 1887, two years before statehood. This boom, coinciding with the construction of railways into the region, brought many additional settlers. Immigrants of many ethnic backgrounds, especially English, Scandinavian, and Dutch, continued to come from nearby states of the upper Mississippi valley. Small groups also came directly from overseas, including Welsh immigrants and additional Germans from Russia.

New lands became available in the western part of the state in the early 1900s, but a severe drought in 1910 and 1911 brought a temporary halt to homesteading and caused significant emigration from the state.

## **Records**

Most European settlers in South Dakota came through the port of New York or other east coast ports. The Family History Library and the National Archives have passenger lists or indexes for American ports for the years 1820 to 1943, and for Canadian ports for 1865 to 1900. The library also has records of the Canadian border crossings of 1895 to 1954. More detailed information on immigration sources is in the *United States Research Outline*.

Histories and compiled biographies of major ethnic groups such as the Czechs and the Russian Germans are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under SOUTH DAKOTA - MINORITIES. American Indian records are generally listed under SOUTH DAKOTA - NATIVE RACES (see the "Native Races" section of this outline).

## **GAZETTEERS**

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Study local histories and maps to learn about places in South Dakota where your family lived. Two guides that will help you identify South Dakota place-names are:

R. L. Polk & Company. *Northwestern Gazetteer: Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Montana Gazetteer and Business Directory*. St. Paul, Minn.: R. L. Polk & Company, 1914. (FHL films 1321220-1.)

Phillips, George H. *The Postoffices of South Dakota, 1861-1930*. Crete, Neb.: J-B Publishing, 1975. (FHL book 978.3 E8p.)

## GENEALOGY

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Most archives, historical societies, and genealogical societies have special collections and indexes of genealogical value. These must usually be searched in person. The Family History Library has copies of a few published genealogies.

A small collection of manuscript material is the *Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Collection*. This collection consists of transcripts of Bible records, cemetery records, church records, marriages, deaths, obituaries, and wills. It was microfilmed in 1971 at the DAR Library in Washington, D.C. (FHL film 855209).

A published genealogical collection for South Dakota families is *Prairie Progress in West Central South Dakota* (Sioux Falls, S.D.: Historical Society of Old Stanley County, South Dakota, 1968; FHL book 978.35 D2h; film 1036396 item 4).

A helpful source for identifying French-Canadian ancestors who emigrated to South Dakota is Paul J. Lareau, and Elmer Courteau, *French-Canadian Families of the North Central States: A Genealogical Dictionary*, 8 vols. (St. Paul, Minn.: Northwest Territory French and Canadian Heritage Institute, 1980; FHL book 973 D2la; fiche 6010503-11).

## HISTORY

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The following important events in the history of South Dakota affected political boundaries, record keeping, and family movements.

1803	The United States acquired the region from France as part of the Louisiana Purchase. Between 1803 and 1858, the area was the domain of the Dakota Sioux Indians and fur traders from St. Louis.
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- 1820-1840 U.S. military expeditions were sent to the area in the 1820s, and Army posts were established in the 1850s. At various times, the area was part of the territories of Missouri, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska.
- 1858 Yankton Sioux Indians ceded their claim to southeastern Dakota to the United States. Permanent white settlements were established at Yankton and Vermillion. For several years, settlement was confined to the area between the Big Sioux and the Missouri rivers.
- 1861 Congress created Dakota Territory, which included all of present-day North and South Dakota, Montana, and northern Wyoming. The first counties were established in southeastern Dakota in 1862. The creation of Montana Territory in 1864 and Wyoming Territory in 1868 reduced Dakota Territory to the area included in the two Dakotas of today.
- 1875 Discovery of gold in the Black Hills led to the opening of that area to white settlement in 1876. About 20,000 people came to South Dakota, but many left after a few months or years. The peak year of the gold rush was 1877.
- 1878-1887 The building of railroads in the region stimulated the great Dakota land boom, bringing settlers to most of the area east of the Missouri River.
- 1889 South Dakota was separated from North Dakota and became a state.
- 1900-1910 As railroads reached the western part of the state, the last land boom brought thousands of homesteaders.

An especially helpful source for studying the history of South Dakota is Herbert S. Schell, *History of South Dakota*, 2nd ed. (Lincoln, Neb.: University of Nebraska Press, 1968; FHL book 978.3 H2s).

## LAND AND PROPERTY

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### Federal Land Records

When the United States acquired South Dakota, most of the land became part of the public domain. The federal government surveyed available land into townships and transferred it to private ownership through local land offices. The first land office was established at Vermillion in 1861. See the *United States Research Outline* for more information about the land entry process.

Land could be obtained through cash payment (cash entries), or by homesteading (after 1862). After a settler completed the requirements for land entry, his case file was sent to the General Land Office (GLO) in Washington, D.C., where a patent (first-title deed) was issued. The local land offices recorded transactions for each section of land in tract books. They also created township plats, which are maps of land entries for each township.

To locate the land-entry or homestead case file for your ancestor, you will need to know either the patent number or the legal description (range, township, section) of the land. The county recorder of deeds may be able to tell you the legal description of the land, or you may be able to pinpoint the exact location by searching the entries in the tract book covering the approximate area concerned.

The original patents and copies of the tract books and township plats are at:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

222 North 32nd Street

Billings, MT 59101

Telephone: 406-255-2940

Fax: 406-255-2894

*Mailing Address:*

P.O. Box 36800

Billings, MT 59101

The National Archives has the original homestead entry files, cash entry files, tract books, and township plats. Patent records since the 1960s of the BLM districts are also at the National Archives—Rocky Mountain Region at Denver.

## **County records**

After land was transferred from the government to private owners, it could be sold again, inherited, lost by foreclosure of a mortgage, or redistributed through a divorce.

These transactions have been recorded by the registrar of deeds in each county. The Family History Library does not have copies of the land records at the county courthouses in North Dakota.

## **MAPS**

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University libraries in South Dakota have the best collections of maps for the state. The Family History Library has a few maps of the Dakota Territory published in 1865.

Other maps of South Dakota from territorial status to statehood are on FHL film 002083.

Maps of Indian reservations from 1910, 1911, and 1914 are on FHL film 1012663 item 6.

## **MILITARY RECORDS**

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The *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) provides more information on federal military records and search strategies.

Many military records you'll want to use are found at the Family History Library, the National Archives, and other federal and state archives. The *United States Research Outline* provides more information about the federal records. For South Dakota, the following sources are also very helpful:

### **Civil War (1861-1865)**

The Family History Library has the index to service records of Union volunteers from the Dakota Territory (FHL film 881616) and the federal index to pension applications. The actual service and pension records are available only at the National Archives. The library also has a copy of the special census taken in 1890 of Union veterans of the Civil War. An index to the 1890 returns has been published.

### **Indian Wars**

The library has enlistment registers for soldiers who served in the regular army from 1798 to 1914 (FHL films 350307—). Many of these soldiers served in the western states, including South Dakota, during the Indian Wars. The enlistment registers provide the soldier's rank, unit, commanders, physical description, occupation, and birthplace. The records are arranged by year and alphabetically by surname.

The library has an index of soldiers who applied for pensions between 1892 and 1926, for service in the Indian Wars from 1817 to 1898 (FHL films 821610-21). The pension records are available only at the National Archives.

### **Spanish-American War (1898)**

A roster of the officers and enlisted men of the First Infantry Regiment, South Dakota Volunteers is in Doane Robinson, *History of South Dakota*, 2 vols. (B.F. Bowen & Co., 1904; FHL book 978.3 H2r v. 1; film 1000583).

### **World War I (1917-1918)**

For a published roster of soldiers who died in the war, see W. M. Haulsee, F.G. Howe, A. C. Doyle, *Soldiers of the Great War*, 3 vols. (Washington, D.C.: Soldiers Record Publishing Association, 1920; FHL book 973 M23s v. 3; fiche 6051244).

World War I draft registration cards for men ages 18 to 45 may list address, birth date, birthplace, race, nationality, citizenship, and next of kin. Not all registrants served in the war. For registration cards for South Dakota, see:

United States Selective Service System, *South Dakota, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918*. National Archives Microfilm Publications, M1509. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1987-1988. (On FHL films beginning with 1877785.)

To find an individual's draft card, it helps to know his name and residence at the time of registration. The cards are arranged alphabetically by county, within the county by draft board, and then alphabetically by surname within each draft board.

Most counties had only one board; large cities had several. A map showing the boundaries of individual draft boards is available for most large cities. Finding an ancestor's street address in a city directory will help you in using the draft board map. There is an alphabetical list of cities that are on the map. For a copy of this map see:

United States Selective Service System. *List of World War One Draft Board Maps*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives. (FHL film 1498803.)

## **NATIVE RACES**

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The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) established several field agencies in South Dakota to administer Indian programs on eight different reservations. Various Sioux tribes lived on those reservations, including the Santee, Teton (Brule and Oglala), Yankton, and Yanktonnais. Other Indian tribes who lived in South Dakota in the early nineteenth century included the Arikara, Cheyenne, Omaha, and Poncas.

The Family History Library has 130 microfilms of BIA records from the Cheyenne River, Pine Ridge, Rosebud, Sisseton, Standing Rock, and other agencies. These include birth, marriage, death, adoption, census, school, land allotment, probate, military, and miscellaneous records. Most of the records were created between 1870 and 1970.

These records are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under NATIVE RACES and other subjects such as CENSUS, VITAL RECORDS, and LAND AND PROPERTY. You will also find records listed in the subject section of the Family History Library Catalog under the names of the tribe, such as SIOUX INDIANS.

The original BIA records are at the National Archives—Central Plains Region at Kansas City, MO (see Archives and Libraries Section above for address).

## **NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP**

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In the territorial era, naturalization proceedings were handled by the U.S. district courts. For information, contact the National Archives—Central Plains Region at Kansas City.

After statehood in 1889, the clerk of the circuit court in each county was authorized to keep all naturalization records. You can obtain copies of declarations and petitions from the clerk's office.

For naturalization records after September 1906, contact the National Archives—Central Plains Region at Kansas City or the local office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The Family History Library does not have copies of these records from South Dakota.

## NEWSPAPERS

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A few newspapers were published in the Dakota Territory in the 1860s and 1870s, but most began publication between 1880 and 1910. The genealogical periodical *Black Hills Nuggets* (see the “Periodicals” section of this outline) lists early newspapers which began publication between 1864 and 1883 (in vol. 5, issue 3).

The Family History Library has not acquired copies of South Dakota newspapers. The South Dakota Historical Society and the state universities and colleges have the largest collections of newspapers.

## PERIODICALS

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The major genealogical periodicals and magazines helpful for South Dakota research are:

*Black Hills Nuggets*. 1968—. Published by the Rapid City Society for Genealogical Research, P.O. Box 1495, Rapid City, SD 57709. (FHL book 978.393/R1 B2b; film 1698196 items 1-16, vols. 1-17; 1698197 items 1-9, vols. 18-26.)

*The Dakota Homestead Historical Newsletter* (formerly: *Bismarck-Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society*). 1972—. Published by the Bismarck-Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society, P.O. Box Box 485, Bismarck, ND 58501-0485. (FHL book 978.477 B2b.)

*Pioneer Pathfinder*. 1975—. Published by the Sioux Valley Genealogical Society, 200 West 6th South, Sioux Falls, SD 57102-0302. (FHL book 978.3371/S1 B2p.)

*South Dakota Genealogical Society Quarterly*. 1982—. Published by the South Dakota Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1101, Pierre, SD 57501-1101. (FHL book 978.3 D25s.)

*The Tree Climber*. 1974. Published by the Aberdeen Area Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 493, Aberdeen, SD 57402-0493. (FHL book 978.3144/A1 D25t.)

## PROBATE RECORDS

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Prior to statehood, probate records were kept by the Territorial Probate Court. Contact the Archives Division of the South Dakota Historical Society for copies of territorial probate records.

Probate records are presently kept by the district county courts. South Dakota probate records include probate proceedings, petitions, affidavits, orders for sales, reports of sales, administrators' and executors' bonds, guardianship papers, wills, and letters of administration.

The Family History Library does not have copies of South Dakota probate records. You can obtain copies from the clerk's office in the various district county courthouses.

## VITAL RECORDS

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### Birth and Death Records

Pre-1905 records exist for some South Dakota counties. These records are located in the office of the registrar of deeds in each county.

Statewide registration of vital statistics began in 1905 and was generally complied with by 1932. Delayed birth records date from the early 1900s.

The State Department of Health has the state birth and death records. You can obtain copies by writing to:

State Department of Health  
Vital Records, Department of Health  
445 East Capitol  
Pierre, SD 57501-3185  
Telephone: 605-773-3355

The current fees for obtaining copies of the state's records are listed in *Where to Write for Vital Records: Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Divorces* (Hyattsville, Md.: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, March 1993; FHL book 973 V24wv). Copies of this booklet are at the Family History Library and many Family History Centers. You can also write to the State Department of Health for current information.

### Marriage Records

Statewide registration of marriages began in 1905. Marriage records are located at the State Department of Health (see address above).

Before statewide registration, individual towns or counties issued marriage licenses and recorded marriages. These records usually begin within ten years of the creation of the county. For information about early marriage records, write to the county treasurer in the county where the marriage took place.

## **Divorce Records**

Records of divorce proceedings since 1905 are kept by the State Department of Health (address above). For information about earlier divorce records, write to the clerk of courts in the county where the divorce took place.

## **COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS**

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The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

Publications Coordination  
Family History Library  
35 N. West Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3400  
USA

We appreciate the archivists, librarians, and others who have reviewed this outline and shared helpful information.

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## South Dakota Historical Background

### History

Effective family research requires some understanding of the historical events that may have affected your family and the records about them. Learning about wars, governments, laws, migrations, and religious trends may help you understand political boundaries, family movements, and settlement patterns. These events may have led to the creation of records that your family was listed in, such as land and military documents.

The following important events in the history of South Dakota affected political boundaries, record keeping, and family movements.

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 1803      | The United States acquired the region from France as part of the Louisiana Purchase. Between 1803 and 1858, the area was the domain of the Dakota Sioux Indians and fur traders from St. Louis.   |
| 1820-1840 | U.S. military expeditions were sent to the area in the 1820s, and Army posts were established in the 1850s. At various times, the area was part of the territories of Missouri, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska.   |
| 1858      | Yankton Sioux Indians ceded their claim to southeastern Dakota to the United States. Permanent white settlements were established at Yankton and Vermillion. For several years, settlement was confined to the area between the Big Sioux and the Missouri rivers.  |
| 1861      | Congress created Dakota Territory, which included all of present-day North and South Dakota, Montana, and northern Wyoming. The first counties were established in southeastern Dakota in 1862. The creation of Montana Territory in 1864 and Wyoming Territory in 1868 reduced Dakota Territory to the area included in the two Dakotas today. |
| 1874      | Discovery of gold in the Black Hills led to the opening of that area to white settlement in 1876. About 20,000 people came to South Dakota, but many left after a few months or years. The peak year of the gold rush was 1877.   |
| 1878-1887 | The building of railroads in the region stimulated the great Dakota land boom, bringing settlers to most of the area east of the Missouri River.  |
| 1889      | South Dakota was separated from North Dakota and became a state.  |
| 1898      | Over 300,000 men were involved in the Spanish-American War, which was fought mainly in Cuba and the Philippines.  |
| 1900-1910 | As railroads reached the western part of the state, the last land boom brought thousands of homesteaders.   |
| 1917-1918 | More than 26 million men from the United States ages 18 through 45 registered with the Selective Service for World War I, and over 4.7 million American men and women served during   |

	the war.
1930s	The Great Depression closed many factories and mills. Many small farms were abandoned, and many families moved to cities.
1940–1945	Over 50.6 million men ages 18 to 65 registered with the Selective Service. Over 16.3 million American men and women served in the armed forces during World War II.
1950–1953	Over 5.7 million American men and women served in the Korean War.
1950s–1960s	The building of interstate highways made it easier for people to move long distances.
1964–1972	Over 8.7 million American men and women served in the Vietnam War.

Your ancestors will become more interesting to you if you also use histories to learn about the events that were of interest to them or that they may have been involved in. For example, by using a history you might learn about the events that occurred in the year your great-grandparents were married.

## Historical Sources

You can find national, state, or local histories in the Place Search of the Family History Library Catalog under one of the following:

UNITED STATES - HISTORY  
[STATE] - HISTORY  
[STATE], [COUNTY] - HISTORY  
[STATE], [COUNTY], [TOWN] - HISTORY

## Local Histories

Some of the most valuable sources for family history research are local histories. Published histories of towns, counties, and states usually contain accounts of families. They describe the settlement of the area and the founding of churches, schools, and businesses. You can also find lists of pioneers, soldiers, and civil officials. Even if your ancestor is not listed, information on other relatives may be included that will provide important clues for locating your ancestor. A local history may also suggest other records to search.

Most county and town histories include separate sections or volumes containing biographical information. These may include information on 50 percent or more of the families in the locality.

In addition, local histories should be studied and enjoyed for the background information they can provide about your family's lifestyle and the community and environment in which your family lived.

About 5,000 county histories have been published for over 80 percent of the counties in the United States. For many counties there is more than one history. In addition, tens of thousands of histories have been written about local towns and communities. Bibliographies that list these histories are available for nearly every state. These are listed in the Place Search of the Family History Library Catalog under [STATE] - BIBLIOGRAPHY or [STATE] - HISTORY - BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Local histories are extensively collected by the Family History Library, public and university libraries, and state and local historical societies. Two useful guides are:

Filby, P. William. *A Bibliography of American County Histories*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1985. (FHL book 973 H23bi.)

Kaminkow, Marion J. *United States Local Histories in the Library of Congress*. 5 vols. Baltimore: Magna Charta Book, 1975-76. (FHL book 973 A3ka.)

## State History

An especially helpful source for studying the history of South Dakota is Herbert S. Schell, *History of South Dakota*, 2nd ed. (Lincoln, Neb.: University of Nebraska Press, 1968; FHL book 978.3 H2s).

## United States History

The following are only a few of the many sources that are available at most large libraries:

Schlesinger, Jr., Arthur M. *The Almanac of American History*. Greenwich, Conn.: Bison Books, 1983. (FHL book 973 H2alm.) This provides brief historical essays and chronological descriptions of thousands of key events in United States history.

*Webster's Guide to American History: A Chronological, Geographical, and Biographical Survey and Compendium*. Springfield, Mass.: G&C Merriam, 1971. (FHL book 973 H2v.) This includes a history, some maps, tables, and other historical information.

*Dictionary of American History*, Revised ed., 8 vols. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1976. (FHL book 973 H2ad.) This includes historical sketches on various topics in U.S. history, such as wars, people, laws, and organizations.



# FAMILYSEARCH™

## G U I D E

Family History Library • 35 North West Temple Street • Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3400 USA

## South Dakota Statewide Indexes and Collections

### Introduction

In the United States, information about your ancestors is often found in town and county records. If you know which state but not which town or county where your ancestor lived in, check the following statewide indexes to find the town or county. Then search records for that town or county.

The indexes and collections listed below index various sources of information, such as histories, vital records, biographies, tax lists, immigration records, and so forth. You may find additional information about your ancestor besides the town or county of residence. The listings may contain:

- The author and title of the source.
- The Family History Library (FHL) book, film, fiche, or compact disc number. If the words *beginning with* appear before the film number, check the Family History Library Catalog for additional films.
- The name of the repository where the source can be found if the source is not available at the Family History Library.

### What You Are Looking For

- Your ancestor's name in an index or collection.
- Where the ancestor was living.

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## Steps

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These 2 steps will help you find information about your ancestor in statewide indexes or collections.

### Step 1. Find your ancestor's name in statewide indexes or collections.

On the list below, if your ancestor lived between the years shown on the left, he or she may be listed in the source on the right.

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 1600–present | <i>Ancestral File</i><br><i>International Genealogical Index</i><br><i>Family History Library Catalog - Surname Search</i><br>To see these files, click Search tab.  |
| 1600–1900    | Filby, P. William, ed. <i>Passenger and Immigration Lists Index: A Guide to Published Arrival Records of About 500,000 Passengers Who Came to the United States and Canada in the Seventeenth, Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries.</i> (FHL book 973 W32p & supplements; films 1597960, items beginning with 4.) An excellent way to find information about immigrants. |

- 1600–present *Periodical Source Index (PERSI)* lists records (by place or surname) that were published in genealogical magazines or periodicals. This resource should not be overlooked. It is available on the Internet through Ancestry.com. (FHL book 973 D25 per, various combined indexes and, annual supplements; fiche 6016863, 6016864; compact disc no. 61.)
- 1600–1940 Rider, Fremont, ed. *American Genealogical-Biographical Index to American Genealogical, Biographical and Local History Materials*. (FHL book 973 D22am ser. 2, vols. 1–189+; on 31 films beginning with 1698167.) The new series now has surnames A to W and is continuing. The old series has surnames A to Z.
- 1600–1915 Newberry Library, (Chicago, Illinois). *The Genealogical Index of the Newberry Library, Chicago*. (FHL book 929 N424g, vols. 1–4; films 928135 A to Fe, and 928136 Fe to Sa, 928137 Sa to Z.) This is an index, like the one above and the one below, to many family histories, local histories, and biographies.
- 1600–1908 *Index to American Genealogies . . .* (FHL book 973 D22m 1984; film 599811, items 2–3; fiche 6051301.) The 1908 supplement is with the book and is on film 599811, item 3. This is known as Munsell's Index.
- 1631–1970 Lareau, Paul J. *The French-Canadian Families of the North Central States: A Genealogical Dictionary*. (FHL book 973 D21a, vols. 1–8; fiche 6010503–11.)
- 1700–1982 Julin, Suzanne. *South Dakota Historical Collection Cumulative Index: Lasting Legacy Project*. (FHL book 978.3 H25sd index.) Indexes volumes 1–41 for the years 1902–1982; vol. 33 has biographies of Dakota women. About 23,000 names.
- 1700–present *South Dakota Genealogical Society Quarterly*. (FHL book 978.3 D25s.) See the *10 Year Index, South Dakota Genealogical Society, 1982–1992*, and see annual indexes after 1992.
- 1700–1990 Sioux Valley Genealogical Society (Sioux Falls, South Dakota). *Surname Index, ca. 1700–1990*. (FHL films 1705319, items 1–2; 1705463–466.) Lists ancestors and the name of a descendant, with birth, marriage, and death information.
- 1700–1981 North Dakota State University Libraries. *North Dakota Biography Index*. (Not at the FHL.) Indexes over 100,000 sketches. Includes some South Dakota families also.
- 1700–present *Black Hills Nuggets*. (FHL book 978.393/R1 B2b; films 1698196–97, vols. 1–26.) A periodical. See annual indexes.
- 1700–present *Pioneer Pathfinder: Sioux Valley Genealogical Society Monthly Bulletin*. (FHL book 978.3371/S1 B2p.) A periodical. See annual indexes.
- 1700–present *Tree Climber: Newsletter of the Aberdeen Area Genealogical Society*. (FHL book 978.3144/A1 D25t.) A periodical. See annual indexes.
- 1700–1860 White, Virgil D. *Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files*. (FHL book 973 M28g, 4 vols.; index in vol. 4.) Lists Revolutionary War veterans and often their spouse and children. About 400,000 names.
- 1700–1970 Kirkham, E. Kay. *An Index to Some of the Bibles and Family Records of the United States: 45,000 References as Taken from the Microfilm at the Genealogical Society of Utah*. (FHL book 973 D22kk, vol. 2; fiche 6089184.) This is a surname index to DAR records including the item below.
- 1700–1932 Daughters of the American Revolution. *Miscellaneous Genealogical Collection from South Dakota*. (FHL film 855209, items 1–2, vols. 1–2.)
- 1700–present *Heritage Review*. (FHL book 978.4 B2hra.) This is a periodical of the Germans from the Russia Heritage Society. See cumulative and annual indexes. There are surname indexes with the names of researchers. The society is located in Bismarck, North Dakota.
- 1700–1987 Miller, Michael M. *Researching the Germans from Russia: Annotated Bibliography of the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection at the North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies, North Dakota State University Library, With a Listing of the Library Materials at the Germans From Russia Heritage Society*. (FHL book 978.4 F23n.) Pages 61–67 and 192–197 list books available about specific families.

- 1700–present North Dakota State University Libraries. *Germans from Russia Heritage Collection*. (Not at Family History Library.) The collection includes some South Dakota families. You may wish to write and request a search.
- 1700–1897 *Memorial and Biographical Record [North Dakota: An Illustrated Compendium of Biography Containing a Compendium of Local Biography . . .* (FHL film 1000587, item 2.) There are indexes to the principal persons at the beginning of the volume.
- 1740–1900 White, Virgil D. *Index to War of 1812 Pension Files*. (FHL book 973 M22i, vols. 1–2.) The soldier's spouse is often listed.
- 1780–1990 Sioux Valley Genealogical Society (Sioux Falls, South Dakota). *Pioneer Certificates*. (On 20 FHL films beginning with 1710503, item 3.) For pioneers who came before 1889. Includes applications; charts; birth, marriage, and death records; etc. Has 3,611 applications.
- 1780–1941 Works Public Administration. *South Dakota Graves Registration Project; Cemetery Information*. (On 17 FHL films beginning with 1295750.) Organized by county, town, then by the person's name.
- 1780–1941 Works Public Administration. *South Dakota Graves Registration Service; Field Data–Veterans*. (On 12 FHL films beginning with 1295766, item 2.) Organized by county, then alphabetical by the name of the veteran.
- 1780–1980s *South Dakota 4-H Tombstone Inscriptions*. (FHL film 1295969, item 2 and 1295970.)
- 1780–1860 Jackson, Ronald Vern. *South Dakota 1860 Mortality Schedule*. (FHL book 978.3 X2m 1860.) persons who died from 1 June 1859 to 1 June 1860.
- 1790–1920 *Census indexes, 1860–1885, 1900, and 1920*. See What to Do Next, and click on **Family History Library Catalog**. Then select CENSUS or CENSUS - INDEXES from the topics that are listed.
- 1790–1870 Jackson, Ronald Vern. *South Dakota 1870 Mortality Schedule*. (FHL book 978.3 X2m 1870.) persons who died from 1 June 1869 to 1 June 1870.
- 1800–1880 Jackson, Ronald Vern. *South Dakota 1880 Mortality Schedule*. (FHL book 978.3 X2m 1880.) persons who died from 1 June 1879 to 1 June 1880.
- 1800–1885 Jackson, Ronald Vern. *South Dakota 1885 Census Index*. (FHL book 978.3 X22j 1885.)
- 1800–1885 Jackson, Ronald Vern. *South Dakota 1885 Mortality Schedule*. (FHL book 978.3 X2m 1885.) persons who died between 1 June 1884 and 1 June 1885.
- 1800–1890 Jackson, Ronald Vern. *1890 South Dakota Census Index: Special Schedule of the Eleventh Census (1890) Enumerating Union Veterans and Union Veterans of the Civil War*. (FHL book 978.3 X22j 1890.) Includes veterans or their widows.
- 1800–1865 United States. Adjutant General's Office. *Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served from the Territory of Dakota*. (FHL film 881616.)
- 1800–1934 United States Veterans Administration. *General Index to Pension Files, 1861–1934*. (On 544 FHL films beginning with 540757.) Has files for the Civil War and the War with Spain. This card index lists soldiers who applied for pensions. The card also lists the widow's name.
- 1800–1933 United States Veterans Administration. *Veteran's Administration Pension Payment Cards, 1907–1933*. (On FHL films beginning with 1634036.) Lists veterans and their wives who received pension payments for the Civil War and the War with Spain.
- 1800–1900 Ledoux, Albert H. *The French-Canadian Families of the Plains and Upper Mountain States: Abstracts from the Federal Census of 1900*. (FHL book 973 X28Le, vols. 1–2.)
- 1800–present Wagner, Sally Roesch, ed. *Daughters of Dakota*. Stories from the Black Hills. (FHL book 978.3 D3d, vols. 1–6.) More volumes are planned. These stories were written mostly by the pioneer women or their children.

- 1800–1953 North Dakota State University Libraries. *Pioneer Mothers Project*. (Not at the Family History Library.) May include South Dakotan families. You may wish to write and request a search.
- 1800–1980 Gray, David P, comp. *Guide to Manuscripts*. (FHL book 978.447/B1 A3g.) Organized by surname. Has some South Dakota manuscripts at the North Dakota State Historical Society in Bismark.
- 1800–1990 Sioux Valley Genealogical Society (Sioux Falls, South Dakota). *Obituary Card Files of Sioux Valley Genealogical Society*. (FHL films beginning with 1705471, item 5, 17 reels.)
- 1800–1990 Sioux Valley Genealogical Society (Sioux Falls, South Dakota). *Index to Deaths, 1880–1990*. (FHL films beginning with 1750251, item 2, 27 reels.)
- 1800–1988 Sioux Valley Genealogical Society (Sioux Falls, South Dakota). *Index to Burial Permits*. (On 11 FHL films beginning with 1752791.)
- 1800–1984 Chester Fritz Library (University of North Dakota, Grand Forks). *Guide to Orin G. Libby Manuscript Collection and Related Research Collections*. (FHL book 978.4 A3c, vols. 1–3.) The collection is at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND 58105. It has some South Dakota family records.
- 1810–1926 White, Virgil D. *Index to Indian Wars Pension Files 1892–1926*. (FHL book 973 M22whi, vols. 1–2.) Lists the name of the soldier and the name of his widow.
- 1810–1930 Kingsbury, George Washington. *History of Dakota Territory*. (FHL book 978.3 H2k, vols. 1–5; films 1000584–86.) Vols. 4–5 contain biographical sketches and are indexed.
- 1820–1985 Kant, Joanita. *A History of South Dakota Century Farms . . .* (FHL book 978.3 H2kt.) Has information about families who have owned their farm for 100 years or more.
- 1820–1892 Holley, Frances Chamberlain. *Once Their Home: Or, Our Legacy from the Dakotahs; Historical, Biographical, and Incidental from Far-off Days, to the Present*. (FHL film 1000589, item 5.)
- 1820–1900s Great Northern Railway Company Personnel Department. *Index to Personnel Files*. (FHL films 1528067–068, 1528072–073.)
- 1820–1900s Northern Pacific Railway Company Personnel Department. *Index to Personnel Files*. (FHL film 1528069–071.)
- 1820–1904 Robinson, Doane. *History of South Dakota*. (FHL book 978.3 H2r, vols.1–2; film 1000583.)
- 1825–1928 *Fox's Who's Who Among South Dakotans: A Biographical Directory of Citizens Who Are Prominent in Professional, Political, Business and Civic Affairs of the State*. (FHL film 1000589, items 6–7, vols. 1–2.) Published in 1924 and 1928. These are and give the person's name, occupation, marriage date, spouse's maiden name, and spouse's place of residence, childrens' names, parents' full names, etc.
- 1830–1967 *Prairie Progress in West Central South Dakota, 1968*. (FHL book 978.35 D2h; film 1036396, item 4.) Has biographical sketches of residents for several counties in western South Dakota.
- 1830–1926 White, Virgil D. *Index to Mexican War Pension Files*. (FHL book 973 M22mw.) This war was fought from 1846–1848. Widows may be listed in this index.
- 1850–1961 White, Bernice ed. *Who's Who for South Dakota: A Biographical Directory*. (FHL book 978.3 D35w, 1956 and 1961 editions.) These give the person's name, occupation, marriage date, spouse's maiden name, and spouse's place of residence, children's names, parents' full names, etc.
- 1873–1918 United States Selective Service System. *South Dakota, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918*. (On 22 FHL films beginning with 1877785.) Men ages 18 to 45 are listed alphabetically by county or draft board.
- 1873–1918 Haulsee W. M. *Soldiers of the Great War*. (Book 973 M23s, vols. 1–3; fiche 6051244.) Vol. 3 has South Dakota. Lists soldiers who died because of World War I. About 800 names.

1878–1918      Sioux Valley Genealogical Society (Sioux Falls, South Dakota). *Index to Births, 1880–1990 of Sioux Falls South Dakota. (On 63 FHL films beginning with 1738650.)*

For ideas on ways your ancestor's name might be spelled by indexers or in collections, see Name Variations.

## Step 2. Copy and document the information.

The best method of copying information is to:

- Make a photocopy of the page(s) with your ancestor's name.
- Document where the information came from by writing the title, call number, and page number of the index or collection on the photocopy. Also write the name of the library or archive.

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## Where to Find It

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### Family History Centers and the Family History Library

You can use the Family History Library book collection only at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, but many of our books have been microfilmed. Most of our films can be requested and used at our Family History Centers. To locate the address for the nearest Family History Center, [click here](#).

For information about contacting or visiting the library or a center, see [Family History Library and Family History Centers](#).

### Libraries and Archives

You may be able to find the books at public or college libraries. If these libraries do not have a copy of the book you need, you may be able to order it from another library on interlibrary loan.

To use interlibrary loan:

- Go to a public or college library.
- Ask the librarian to order a book or microfilm for you through interlibrary loan from another library. You will need the title of the item and the name of the author.
- The library staff will direct you in their procedures. Sometimes this is free; sometimes there is a small fee.

You can find addresses and phone numbers for most libraries and archives in the *American Library Directory*, published by the American Library Association. The *American Library Directory* is available at most public and college libraries.

# Maps

## Computer Resources

### **MapQuest Maps**

Summary: Must know address, city, state, and zip code; more recent maps

### **Animap**

BYU FHL – on computer

Summary: Has each state with maps. Shows county boundary changes and allows marking of cities and finds distances.

### **Google Maps**

Summary: Has address finder, allows keyword searching, and allows street, satellite, or terrain views

### **Geology.com Maps**

Summary: Has Relief, Elevation, Drainage, Political and Road Maps for each state.

## **South Dakota Maps Bibliography**

Andriot, Jay. *Township Atlas of the U.S.* McLean, Virginia, 1991.

Mic/Gen Ref- **G 1201.F7 AS 1991**

Summary: Shows "minor county subdivisions" maps start after 1930 and are provided by the Bureau of the Census. Census county subdivisions or minor civil divisions. Does not include Hawaii or Alaska.

Evaluation of South Dakota Maps: pp. 905-931. General history of counties with precincts, census county divisions, public land surveys and townships.

Kirkham, E. Kay. *A Genealogical and Historical Atlas of the United States.* Utah: Everton Publishers, Inc. 1976.

Mic/Gen Ref- **G1201.E622S.KS 1976.**

Summary: Shows changes in boundaries in the United States from colonial days up to 1909. Civil War maps and information.

Evaluation of South Dakota Maps: State historical information, p 45. Maps: 1909, 245.

Mattson, Mark T. *Macmillan Color atlas of the States.* Toronto: Simon Schuster Macmillan, 1996.

Mic/ Gen Ref- **Quarto Shelves G 1200.M4 1996**

Summary: General state information.

Evaluation of South Dakota Maps: pp. 286-292. General state information includes; Maps with highways, climate & environment, history & important events, population & government, ethnicity & education, economy & resources.

Thorndale, William and William Dollarhide. *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1947.* Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1987.

Mic/Gen Ref- **G1201.F7 TS 1987**

Summary: Outlines counties and changes in 10 year intervals. Gives brief history on census, its growth and accuracy. Sources for maps come from state/territorial laws.

Evaluation of South Dakota Maps: pp. 306-313. Shows modern boundaries and changes.

Map Collection on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the old section of HBLL

Long, John H. *Historical Atlas and Chronology of County Boundaries, 1788-1980*, Boston, 1984.

Map Collection – G 1201 .F7 H58x 1984

Summary: Individual county chronologies, maps and areas from South Carolina. Table of colonial, state and federal censuses in South Carolina.

Evaluation of South Dakota: pp 271-415. Excellent for general information. Shows small towns in each county, as well as county creations and effective dates with the actual source. (See North Dakota Maps also).

Map Collection – Map Cases G4180-G4184. Individual maps that illustrate things from military movement to censuses.

Web Sites/Computer Programs

[www.topozone.com](http://www.topozone.com)

Summary: Gives options, of place name searches, coordinate searches, UTM searches.

Evaluation: Excellent for finding what new town your old town (etc) may be in.

[www.MapQuest.com](http://www.MapQuest.com)

Summary: Must know address, city, state and zip code, more recent maps.

Evaluation: Good, to find an existing relative if you have their address.

Animap

Mic/Gen Family Search room - on computer and C.D. version available

Summary: Each state is different, with maps. Shows boundary changes with now boundaries.

Evaluation: Excellent to find older maps quick.

## South Dakota Federal Census Population Schedules, 1840 to 1920

### Introduction

Federal censuses are taken every 10 years. South Dakota residents are included in territorial and federal censuses from 1840 through 1920.

- The 1790 through 1840 censuses gives the name of the head of each household. Other household members are mentioned only by age groupings of males and females.
- The 1850 census was the first federal census to give the names of all members of the household.

For more information about the U.S. Federal Censuses, see Background.

### What You Are Looking For

The information you find varies from record to record. These records may include:

- Names of family members.
- Ages of family members, which you can use to calculate birth or marriage years.
- The county and state where your ancestors lived.
- People living with (or gone from) the family.
- Relatives that may have lived nearby.

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## Steps

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These 5 steps will help you use census records.

### Step 1. Determine which censuses might include your ancestors.

Match the probable time your ancestor was in South Dakota with the census years. This will determine which censuses you will search.

Example of a time an ancestor was in South Dakota.  
in South Dakota from 1873 [-----] through 1914  
--]-----]-]-----]-]-----]-]-----]-  
1850 1860 1870 1880 1900 1910 1920  
South Dakota census years

This person would be included in South Dakota censuses from 1880 to 1910.  
(The 1890 census was mostly destroyed.)

## Step 2. Determine a census to start with.

Start with the last census taken during the life of your ancestor.

The censuses from **1790 to 1840** give the name of the head of household and the number of males and females in age groups **without** their names.

The censuses from **1850 to 1920** give more information and include the name, age, and birthplace of every person in the household.

The censuses for 1930 and later are available from the U.S. Census Bureau only.

For ways the census can help you find your ancestor's parents, see Tip 1.

## Step 3. Search the census.

For instructions on how to search a specific census, click on one of the following years:

1840 1850 1860 1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920

For information about archives and libraries that have census records, see Where to Find It.

## Step 4. Search another census.

Repeat steps 2 and 3 until you search all the censuses taken during the life span of your ancestor. Each census may contain additional information.

If you skip a census taken when your ancestor lived, you risk missing additional information, such as names of in-laws or other relatives who may have lived with or near the family. Those names and relationships may help you identify earlier generations.

For other information about how to search the census, see Tips.

## Step 5. Analyze the information you obtain from the censuses.

To effectively use the information from the census, ask yourself these questions:

- Who was in the family?
- About when were they born?
- Where were they born? (Birthplaces are shown in censuses for 1850 to 1920.)
- Where were they living—town or township, county, and state?
- Where were their parents born? (Birthplaces are shown in censuses for 1880 to 1920.)
- Do they have neighbors with the same last name? Could they be relatives?

For more about comparing information in several censuses, see Tip 3.

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## Tips

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### Tip 1. How can the census help me find my ancestor's parents?

Searching the census taken closest to the time the ancestor married has the best possibility of finding your ancestor and spouse living close to their parents and other family members.

## Tip 2. How can I understand the information better?

Sometimes knowing why the census taker asked a question can help you understand the answer. Detailed instructions given to census takers are in the book, *Twenty Censuses: Population and Housing Questions 1790–1980*, updated as *200 Years of U.S. Census Taking*, both by the United States Census Bureau.

## Tip 3. How can comparing information in more than one census help me?

Comparing censuses indicates:

- Changes in who was in the household, such as children leaving home or the death of grandparents or a child.
- Changes in neighbors. Remember, neighbors might be relatives or in-laws.
- Changes about each individual, such as age.
- Movement of the family within South Dakota to a different county or town.
- Movement of the family out of South Dakota if the family no longer appears in the census for South Dakota.

You will eventually want to know every country, state, county, township, and town where your ancestor was located. You can then check information in other records for those places. A careful check of all available federal census records can help you identify those places.

Ages and estimated birth dates for an individual may vary greatly from census to census. Often ages are listed more accurately for young children than for older adults.

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## Background

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### Description

A census is a count and a description of the population of a country, colony, territory, state, county, or city. Census records are also called census schedules or population schedules. Early censuses are basically head counts. Later censuses give information about marriage, immigration, and literacy. United States censuses are useful because they begin early and cover a large portion of the population.

### What U.S. Federal Censuses Are Available

Censuses have been taken by the United States government every 10 years since 1790. The 1920 census is the most recent federal census available to the public; the 1930 census will be released in 2002. In 1885 the federal government also helped 5 states or territories (Colorado, Florida, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Dakota Territory-this included the area that is now South Dakota) conduct special censuses.

The 1890 census for most states was destroyed in a fire; however the portion for Jefferson Township, Union County, South Dakota is available. Portions of a special schedule taken in 1890, of Union Civil War veterans and their widows, have survived. The surviving 1890 veterans' schedules cover Washington D.C., half of Kentucky, and all of Louisiana through Wyoming (states are in alphabetical order from K through W). These schedules contain approximately 700,000 names.

## Types of Census Schedules

The following census schedules are available for South Dakota and were created in various years by the federal government:

- **Population schedules** list a large portion of the population; most are well-indexed and are available at many repositories.
- **Mortality schedules** list those who died in the 12 months prior to the day the census was taken, for the 1860, 1870, 1880, and 1885 censuses.
- **1890 veterans' schedules** list Union veterans from the Civil War or their widows who were living in 1890.
- **Agricultural schedules** list data about farms and the names of the farmers from for the 1870 and 1880 censuses.
- **Manufacturing or industrial schedules** list data about businesses and industries for the 1870 and 1880 censuses.

## How Censuses Were Taken

People called enumerators were hired by the United States government to take the census. The enumerators were given forms to fill out and were assigned to gather information about everyone living in a certain area or district. Enumerators could visit houses in any order, so families who are listed together in the census may or may not have been neighbors. The accuracy of the enumerators and the readability of their handwriting varies.

After the census was taken, usually one copy was sent to the state and another to the federal government. Sometimes copies were also kept by the counties. Few of the state and county copies survived.

## When Censuses Were Taken

Census takers were supposed to gather information about the people who were part of household on the following dates:

1790 to 1820: First Monday in August  
1830 to 1900: June 1 (June 2 in 1890)  
1910: 15 April  
1920: 1 January  
1930: 1 April

If your ancestor was born in the census year, your ancestor should be listed only if he or she was born before the census date.

If your ancestor died in the census year, your ancestor should be listed only if he or she died after the census date.

The census may have actually taken several months to complete and may reflect births and deaths after the census date.

## Censuses from 1930 to the Present

U.S. Federal Censuses from 1930 to the present are confidential. The 1930 census will be available in 2002. You may ask the U.S. Census Bureau to send information about:

- Yourself.
- Another living person, if you are that person's "authorized representative."
- Deceased individuals, if you are "their heirs or administrators."

You may request information for only one person at a time. There is a fee for each search. To

request information, you must provide the person's name, address at the time of the census, and other details on Form BC-600, available from the U.S. Census Bureau.

For the address of the U.S. Census Bureau, see *Where to Find It*.

## Territorial, State, and Local Censuses

Territorial, state, and local governments also took censuses. Nonfederal censuses generally contain information similar to and sometimes more than federal censuses of the same period.

The South Dakota area was included in the following territorial censuses:

- 1836: Wisconsin Territory
- 1840: Iowa Territory
- 1850: Minnesota Territory
- 1860 to 1885: Dakota Territory

South Dakota became a state in 1889. State censuses were taken in South Dakota in 1895, 1905, 1915, 1925, 1935, and 1945. For more information see the "Census" section of the *South Dakota Research Outline*.

Territorial, state, and local censuses may be available on the Internet, at Family History Centers, in the Family History Library, and in state and local archives and libraries.

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## Where to Find It

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### Internet

Many Internet sites include census records, census indexes, or information about censuses. You may find the following sites helpful:

- South Dakota GenWeb and USGenWeb have links to indexes and records and may have links to archives, libraries, and genealogical and historical societies.
- CensusLinks on the Net includes links to Internet sites with United States and Canada censuses and indexes. It includes information about censuses and how to use them, a Soundex calculator, census forms you can print, an age calculator, and more.
- The Archives and Libraries section of the *South Dakota Research Outline* lists Internet addresses for several South Dakota archives, libraries, and historical societies. These organizations may have microfilms and indexes of South Dakota census records, and the Internet sites may list what records they have.

### Family History Centers

Many Family History Centers keep copies of some census microfilms. Family History Centers can borrow microfilms of a U.S. Federal Census from the Family History Library. A small fee is charged to have a microfilm sent to a center.

You may request photocopies of U.S. Federal Censuses from the Family History Library. Staff at the Family History Center can show you how to request this service.

Family History Centers are located throughout the United States and other areas of the world. See "Family History Centers" for the address and phone number of the center nearest you.

## Family History Library

The Family History Library has complete sets of the existing U.S. Federal Censuses from 1790 to 1920. No fee is charged for using census microfilms in person.

For a list of indexes and other census records, click on **Family History Library Catalog** in the window to the left. Select from the list of titles to see descriptions of the records with the film or book call numbers. Use that information to obtain the records at a family history center or at the Family History Library.

For information about contacting or visiting the library, see *Family History Library and Family History Centers*.

## National Archives

Copies of the existing federal censuses from 1790 to 1920 are available in the Microfilm Research Room in the National Archives Building and at the 13 Regional National Archives. The National Archives has a microfilm rental program for census records. Call 301-604-3699 for rental information. For information on how to order photocopies of census records from the National Archives, click here.

## College and Public Libraries

Many college libraries have copies of census microfilms, particularly for their own states. Many larger public libraries have copies of the census soundex and populations schedules. Smaller public libraries may be able to obtain the records through interlibrary loan.

## State Archives, Libraries, Historical Societies, etc.

The Archives and Libraries section of the *South Dakota Research Outline* lists Internet and mailing addresses for several South Dakota archives, libraries, and historical societies. These organizations may have microfilms and indexes of South Dakota census records, and the Internet sites may list what records they have.

## U.S. Census Bureau

To request information from the 1930 census and later censuses, you must provide your relative's name, address, and other details on Form BC-600, available from:

The U.S. Census Bureau  
P.O. Box 1545  
Jeffersonville, IN 47131  
812-218-3300

## Genealogical Search Services

Many genealogical search services will search the census for a fee. These sources can help you find a genealogical search service:

- CyndisList lists many companies and individuals who do research and mentions publications about how to hire a professional genealogist.
- Advertisements in major genealogical journals may help you find a researcher.

For more information, see *Hiring a Professional Genealogist*.

**U.S. State Censuses****SOUTH DAKOTA**

- 1836  
The first census of the original counties of Dubuque and Demoine (Iowa) taken in July, 1836. Comprising the present states of Iowa, Minnesota and part of North and South Dakota.  
ANOTHER FILMING 1022202 item 1-2  
0989450 item 2
- 1885  
Partial South Dakota portion of the 1885 Dakota Territory census population schedules.  
  
Beadle, Butte, Charles Mix, Edmunds, Fall 1405268  
River, Faulk, Hand, Hanson, Hutchinson and  
Hyde Counties  
Lake, Lincoln, Marshall, McPherson, Moody, 1405269  
Roberts, Sanborn, Spink, Stanley & Turner Counties
- 1895  
Partial South Dakota 1895 census population schedules. Contains Beadle, Brule, Pratt, Presho, Campbell and Charles Mix Counties. Most of the 1895 schedules were destroyed. 1405183
- 1905  
Statitical Census State Census  
Microfiche  
Card 1 of 1
- 1915  
Statitical Census State Census  
Microfiche  
Card 1 of 1
- 1925  
Statitical Census State Census  
Microfiche  
Card 1 of 1
- 1935  
Statitical Census State Census  
Microfiche  
Card 1 of 1
- 1945  
Statitical Census State Census  
Microfiche  
Card 1 of 1

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

Hasselstrom, Linda M. Roadside History of South Dakota. Missoula, MT: Mountain Press, Pub., 1994. **F 649.3 .H37 1994**

Hall, Bert L. Roundup years: Black Hills to Old Muddy. Pierre, S.D. : Lithographed from original manuscript by The Reminder, Inc., 1954. **F 656 .R68 AND F 656 .R68 1954.**

Hall, Philip S. To have this land: the nature of Indian/white relations, South Dakota, 1888-1891. Vermillion, SD : University of South Dakota Press, 1991. **E 99 .D1 H19 1991**

Hoover, Herbert T. South Dakota history : an annotated bibliography. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1993. **F 651 .X1 H668 1993**

Hoover, Herbert T. South Dakota leaders: from Pierre Chouteau, Jr., to Oscar Howe. Vermillion, S.D. : University of South Dakota Press ; Lanham, MD : Distributed by University Publishing Associates, c1989. **F 650 .S687x 1989**

Iverson, Blakeman & Company. The new states: a sketch of the history and development of the states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Washington, with map and illustrations. New York : Iverson, Blakeman & Co., c1889. **F 598 .H28 1889**

Jacobsen, Ethel Collins. Index to South Dakota historical collections, vols. I-XVI. Pierre, S.D.: 1935. **CS 43 .G46x GS 209**

Johnson, Willis E. South Dakota: A Republic of Friends. Pierre, SD: The Capital Supply Co., 1915. **F 651 .J725**

Kohl, Edith Eudora. Land of the burnt thigh. St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1986. **F 656 .K65 1986.**

Kingsbury, George W. Dakota Territory. Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1915. (2 vols) **F 651 .K55 AND Z 1236 .L5 1971 no. 23895-902.**

Kingsbury, George W. History of Dakota Territory. Chicago : S.J. Clarke Pub. Co., 1915. **CS 43 .G46x LH 10530**

Kruckenberg, Janet. Dakota saints: Latter-Day Saints in North and South Dakota. 1997. **378.23 K933 1997**

Milton, John R. South Dakota: A Bicentennial History. New York: Norton, 1977. **F 651 .M5**

Nelson, Paula. After the West was won: homesteaders and townbuilders in western South Dakota, 1900-1917. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1986. **F 656 .N45 1986**

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

Nelson, Paula. The prairie winnows out its own : the West River Country of South Dakota in the years of the depression and dust. Iowa City : University of Iowa Press, c1996.

**F 656 .N455 1996**

Ransom, Frank L. The Sunshine State: A History of South Dakota. Mitchell, SD: The Educator School Supply Co., 1917. **F 651 .R21**

Robinson, Doane. A brief history of South Dakota. New York, Cincinnati [etc.] American Book Company c1919. **F 651 .R64 1931 AND CS 43 .G46x LH 10531**

Robinson, Doane. History of South Dakota: Stressing the Unique and Dramatic in South Dakota History. Chicago: American Historical Society, 1930. (3 vols) **F 651 .R67**

Robinson, Doane. History of South Dakota: together with personal mention of citizens of South Dakota. Logansport, IN: B.F. Bowen, 1904. **Z 1236 .L5 1971 no. 23309-11**

Robinson, Doane. A history of South Dakota from earliest times. Mitchell, S.D. : The Educator School Supply Co., 1900. **F 651 .R663**

Rosen, Peter. Pa-ha-sa-pah : or, The Black hills of South Dakota : a complete history of the gold and wonder-land of the Dakotas, from the remotest date up to the present. St. Louis [Mo.]: Nixon-Jones printing company, 1895. **F 657.B6R8**

Schell, Herbert S. History of South Dakota. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1961. **F 651 .S29 1961**

Schell, Herbert Samuel. South Dakota: a students' guide to localized history. New York, Teachers College Press [1971]. **F 651 .S297**

Schell, Herbert Samuel. South Dakota, its beginnings and growth. New York ; Cincinnati ; Chicago ; Boston ; Atlanta ; Dallas ; San Francisco : American Book Company, 1942. **F 651 .S3 1942.**

Schuler, Harold H. Fort Pierre Chouteau. Vermillion, SD : University of South Dakota Press, 1990. **F 659 .F677 S38 1990**

South Dakota State Historical Society. South Dakota History. Pierre, South Dakota : South Dakota State Historical Society. **F 646 .S8**

South Dakota State Historical Society. South Dakota report and historical collections. Pierre, S.D.: South Dakota State Historical Society. **F 646 .S6x**

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

South Dakota State Historical Society. South Dakota historical review. Pierre : South Dakota Historical Society 1935-1937. **F 646 .S79**

South Dakota Writers' Project. Sodbusters: tales of southeastern South Dakota. Alexandria, S.D. Composed and printed by the South Dakota Writers' League at the Alexandria herald, 1938. **CS 43 .G46x LH 11836**

Thompson, Harry F. Guide to collections relating to South Dakota Norwegian-Americans. Sioux Falls, S.D. : Center for Western Studies, Augustana College, 1991. **F 660.S2 T46x 1991**

Torrey, Edwin C. Early Days in Dakota. Minneapolis: Farnham Printing & Stationary Co., 1925. **F 656 .T6**

Vexler, Robert I. Chronology and documentary handbook of the State of South Dakota. Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. : Oceana Publications, 1979. **F 651.5 .C48**

Wyman, Walker Demarquis. Frontier woman; the life of a woman homesteader on the Dakota frontier. Retold from the original notes and letters of Grace Fairchild, a Wisconsin teacher, who went to South Dakota in 1898. [River Falls] University of Wisconsin-River Falls Press [1972]. **F 656 .W9 1972**

### **Aurora County**

Formed in 1879 from Cragin County.

### **Beadle County**

Formed in 1879 from Clark, Spink, Burchard, and Kingsbury Counties.

### **Bennett County**

Formed in 1909 from Fall County.

### **Bon Homme County**

Formed in 1862 from unorganized land.

A History of Bon Homme County, South Dakota. Stickney, SD: Argus Printers, 1961.  
**F657 .B68 H5 1961**

### **Brookings County**

Formed in 1862 from unorganized land

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

Sandro, Gustav O. The immigrants' trek [microform] : a detailed history of the Lake Hendricks colony in Brookings County, Dakota Territory, from 1873-1881. Sioux Falls, S.D.: Sessions, c1929. **Z 1236 .L5 1971 no. 40052**

Biggar, James Harvey. These eighty-one years. Chicago, 1935. **978.4 A1 no.30**

### **Brown County**

Formed in 1879 from Beadle, Mills, and Stone Counties.

### **Brule County**

Formed in 1875 from Charles Mix County.

Bingham, John H. A short history of Brule County. 1947. **CS 43 .G46x LH 12653**

### **Buffalo County**

Formed in 1864 from Brugier, Charles Mix Counties along with unorganized land.

### **Butte County**

Formed in 1883 from Lawrence and Mandan counties.

Engebretson, Pat. A History of Butte County, South Dakota. Dallas, Texas: Curtis Media Corp., 1988. **Quarto F657 .B9 E54 1988**

### **C**ampbell County

Formed in 1873 from Buffalo county.

### **Charles Mix County**

Formed in 1862 from unorganized land.

Peterson, E. Frank. History of Charles Mix County, South Dakota. Geddes, South Dakota : H.C. Tucker & Sons, 1907. **CS 43 .G46x LH 13448**

### **Clark County**

Formed in 1873 from Hanson County.

### **Clay County**

Formed in 1862 from unorganized land.

### **Codington County**

Formed in 1877 from Clark, Grant, and Gamlin counties along with unorganized land.

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

### **Corson County**

Formed in 1909 from Boreman and DeweySchnasse Counties, along with unorganized land.

### **Custer County**

Formed in 1875 from unorganized land.

Eastern Custer County Historical Society. **Our Yesterdays**. Hermosa, S.D. : The Society, 1970. **CS 43 .G46x LH 12249**

### **D**avison County

Formed in 1873 from Hanson County.

### **Day County**

Formed in 1879 from Greeley and Stone Counties.

### **Deuel County**

Formed in 1862 from unorganized land.

### **Dewey County**

Formed in 1873 from unorganized lan.

### **Douglas County**

Formed in 1873 from Charles Mix County.

Douglas County: Tales and Towns. Armour, SD: Armour Herald Print, 1938.  
**F657 .D7 F4 AND CS 43 .G46x LH 11262**

Douglas County. Douglas County history and centennial observances, 1961.  
Stickney, S.D. : Argus Printers, 1961. **CS 43 .G46x LH 12242**

### **E**dmunds County

Formed in 1873 from Buffalo County.

### **Fall River County**

Formed in 1883 from Custer County.

Marchant, Sylvia Hogg. Pioneering on the Cheyenne River : the stories of pioneers and early settlers in northern Niobrara County, Wyoming, southern Weston County, Wyoming, western Fall River County, South Dakota. Lusk, Wyo. : The Lusk Herald, 1947. **F 761 .P5x 1947**

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

Schatz, A. H. (August Herman). Opening a cow country : a history of the pioneer's struggle in conquering the prairies south of the Black Hills. Ann Arbor, Mich. : Edwards Brothers, Inc., 1939. **F 657 .F3 S4 1939**

Taylor, Gilbert B. Glimpses into Edgemont's Past. Lusk, WY: The Lusk Herald, 1961. **F659 .E3 T3**

### **Faulk County**

Formed in 1873 from Buffalo County.

Ellis, Caleb Holt. History of Faulk County, South Dakota. Aberdeen, S.D. : Reprinted by North Plains Press, 1973. **CS 43 .G46x LH 12170**

### **G**rant County

Formed in 1873 from Deuel and Hanson Counties

### **G**regory County

Formed in 1862 from Todd and Charles Mix Counties along with unorganized land.

### **H**aakon County

Formed in 1914 from Stanley County.

Pioneer Club of Western South Dakota. Pioneers of the open range: Haakon County, South Dakota settlers before January 1, 1906. Midland, S.D. : Pioneer Club of Western South Dakota, 1965. **CS 43 .G46x LH 12250**

### **H**amlin County

Formed in 1873 from Deuel and Hanson Counties.

### **H**and County

Formed in 1873 from Buffalo County.

Heideprien, Scott. Bring on the Pioneers! History of Hand County. Miller, SD: Heideprien, 1978. **F657 .H35 H43**

### **H**anson County

Formed in 1871 from Brookings, Buffalo, Charles Mix, Deuel, Hutchinson, Jayne, and

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

Minnehaha Counties along with unorganized land.

### **Harding County**

Formed in 1881 from unorganized land.

### **Hughes County**

Formed in 1873 from Buffalo County

### **Hutchinson County**

Formed in 1862 from unorganized land.

### **Hyde County**

Formed in 1873 from Buffalo County.

Hyde Heritage. Highmore, SD: The Society, 1977. **F657 .H9 H93**

Perkins, John B. History of Hyde County: From Its Organization to the Present Time. S. l.: s. n., 1908. **F657 .H9 P49 1908**

Perkins, John B. History of Hyde County, South Dakota: from its organization to the present time. Highmore, S.D., 1908. **CS 43 .G46x LH 12171**

### **Jackson County**

Formed in 1883 from Cheyenne, Lugenbeel, and White River Counties. In 1909, Jackson was abolished and became part of Mellette and Washabaugh, Jackson was re-created from Stanley in 1914, becoming fully organized in 1915.

### **Jerauld County**

Formed in 1883 from Aurora and Buffalo Counties

Dunham, N. J. A history of Jerauld County, South Dakota. Wessington Springs, S.D., 1910. **CS 43 .G46x LH 12247**

A History of Jerauld County: From the Earliest Settlement to January 1st, 1909. Wessington Springs: s. n., 1910. **F657 .J4 D8**

### **Jones County**

Formed in 1916 from Lyman County

Proving Up: Jones County History. Murdo, SD: Book and Thimble Club, 1969. **F657 .J6 B6**

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

### **Kingsbury County**

Formed in 1873 from Hanson County.

### **Lake County**

Formed in 1873 from Brookings, Hanson, and Minnehaha Counties

Hidenshield, Charles G. History of the Family in Society on South Dakota Plains: Lake County, South Dakota, 1871-1900. Provo, UT: Brigham Young University, 1984.  
**D1.02 .H53 also Americana 378.2 H525**

Tyrrell, P. E. Pioneer Days in Lake County. Madison, SD: Dakota State College, 1981.  
**F657 .L3 T97**

### **Lawrence County**

Formed in 1875 from unorganized land.

Fielder, Mildred. Lawrence County, South Dakota. Lead, SD: Seaton Publishing Co., 1960. **F657 .L4 F5**

### **Lincoln County**

Formed in 1862 from unorganized land.

### **Lyman County**

Formed in 1873 from Gregory county and unorganized land.

Speck, Barbara. Of Rails and Trails : A Centennial Journey, 1889-1989. Dallas, Tex. : Curtis Media Corp., c1989. **F 651 .O33 1989**

### **Marshall County**

Formed in 1885 from Day County.

### **McCook County**

Formed in 1873 from Hanson County.

### **McPherson County**

Formed in 1873 from Buffalo County.

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

### **Meade County**

Formed in 1889 from Lawrence County.

Lee, Bob. Fort Meade & the Black Hills. Lincoln : University of Nebraska Press, c1991.

**F 659 .F675 L43 1991**

Waldman, Charles W. Sturgis and Fort Meade, 1874-1910 : Early day history of Sturgis and Fort Meade in the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota. Sturgis, S.D.:c1964. **F 659 .S72 W3 vol.1**

### **Mellette County**

Formed in 1909 from Jackson, Meyer, and Washabaugh counties, along with unorganized land.

Mellette County, South Dakota. White River, SD: Mellette County Centennial Commission, 1961. **F657 .M45 M37 AND CS 43 .G46x LH 12252**

Reutter, Winifred. Mellette County Memories. Stickney, SD: Argus Printers, 1961.  
**F 657 .M45 R4**

Reutter, Winifred. Early Dakota Days. Stickney, SD: Argus Printers, 1962. **F655 .R48**

### **Miner County**

Formed in 1873 from Hanson County.

South Dakota Federal Writers Project. Prairie tammers of Miner County. South Dakota, Composed and printed in hand-set type by South Dakota Writers' League, 1939.  
**CS 43 .G46x LH 11249**

Fjellestad, Leif I. Early History of Miner County. Sioux Falls: Center for Western Studies, 1981. **F657 .M55 F53**

### **Minnehaha County**

Formed in 1862 from unorganized land.

Bailey, Dana R. History of Minnehaha County, South Dakota. Sioux Falls: Brown and Saenger Printers, 1899. **F657 .M6 B2 and CS 43 .G46x LH 12398**

Smith, Charles A. A Comprehensive History of Minnehaha County, South Dakota. Mitchell, SD: The Educator Supply Co., 1949. **F657 .M6 S7 and CS 43 .G46x LH 12405**

### **Moody County**

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

Formed in 1873 from Brookings and Minnehaha County.

### **Pennington County**

Formed in 1875 from unorganized land.

Hughes, Richard B. Pioneer Years in the Black Hills. Glendale, CA: A. H. Clark, 1957.  
**F657 .B6 H8**

Leedy, Carl H. Golden Days in the Black Hills. Rapid City, SD: Holmgren's Inc., 1961.  
**F657 .B6 L42 1961**

McClintock, John S. Pioneer Days in the Black Hills: Accurate History and Facts Related by One of the Early Day Pioneers. Deadwood, SD: J. S. McClintock, 1939.  
**Americana F657 .B6 M15**

### **Perkins County**

Formed in 1908 from Butte County.

### **Potter County**

Formed in 1873 from Buffalo County.

### **Roberts County**

Formed in 1883 from Grant and Sisseton Counties.

Roberts County Centennial Committee. Roberts County history: South Dakota : Dakota Territory centennial. Roberts County, S.D. : Roberts County Centennial Committee, 1961. **CS 43 .G46x LH 12401**

### **Sanborn County**

Formed in 1883 from Miner County.

### **Shannon County**

Formed in 1875 from unorganized land.

### **Spink County**

Formed in 1873 from Hanson County.

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

### **Stanley County**

Formed in 1873 from unorganized land.

### **Sully County**

Formed in 1873 from Buffalo County.

### **Todd County**

Formed in 1862 from unorganized land.

### **Tripp County**

Formed in 1873 from Gregory and Todd Counties, along with unorganized land.

### **Turner County**

Formed in 1871 from Lincoln and Jayne County.

Stoddard, William H. Turner County: Pioneer History. Sioux Falls: Brown and Saenger, 1931. **F 657 .T8 S8 1931**

### **Union County**

Formed in 1862 from unorganized land.

A Century in Review: City of Elk Point. Elk Point, SD: Centennial Book Committee, 1959. **F659 .E44 C46 1959**

Fate, William H. Historical Glimpse of the Early Settlement of Union County. Sioux City: Perkins Brothers Co., 1924. **F657 .U5 F3**

Parker, Donald Dean. History of our county and state. Brookings, S.D., 1959. **CS 43 .G46x LH 12253**

### **Walworth County**

Formed in 1873 from Buffalo County.

### **Washabaugh County**

Formed in 1883 from Lugenbeel County.

### **Yankton County**

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

Formed in 1862 from unorganized land.

Karolevitz, Robert F. Yankton: A Pioneer Past. Aberdeen, SD: North Plains Press, 1972. **Americana F659 .Y25 K37**

### **Ziebach County**

Formed in 1911 from Schnasse, Sterling, and Armstrong Counties.

## Other South Dakota Resources

Archives and Manuscript Collections of the Center for Western Studies

<http://www.augie.edu/cws/archives.html>

Cyndi's List South Dakota Resources

<http://www.cyndislist.com/sd.htm>

United States Resources South Dakota

<http://www.rootsweb.com/roots-1/usa/sd.html>