FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Feb. 9, 2016 CONTACT: Jeff Mammenga, Media Coordinator, (605) 773-6000, Jeff.Mammenga@state.sd.us

State Historical Records Advisory Board Announces Re-grant Funding

PIERRE, S.D. -- The South Dakota State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) was recently awarded \$4,000 for a re-grant opportunity. The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), of the National Archives and Records Administration, awarded the funding.

"The award will allow the State Historical Records Advisory Board to grant funding to historical organizations within the state that hold archival material," said Chelle Somsen, state archivist with the South Dakota State Historical Society at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre and chair of the South Dakota SHRAB. "The funding will assist those organizations with protecting their archival collections, rehousing materials in appropriate storage and making archival collections more available to the public."

The deadline for application submission is April 30.

The South Dakota SHRAB advocates for the preservation of historical records, educates the public and records caretakers about the importance of historical records, and leads the historical community in preserving, promoting and providing access to the state's documentary heritage, Somsen said.

The purpose of the re-grant program is to address priorities identified in the South Dakota SHRAB strategic plan. Priorities identified include:

- Increased access to archival collections
- Increased opportunities for education, training and development in archives and collection management
- Identification of important historical records that are at risk
- Increased funding for South Dakota's historical records

For information on the guidelines for the grant and the application, please see <u>http://history.sd.gov/Archives/SHRAB/shrabactivity.aspx</u> or call the South Dakota State Historical Society-Archives at (605) 773-3804.

-30-

The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Education. The State Historical Society, an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is headquartered at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre. The center houses the society's world-class museum, the archives, and the historic preservation, publishing and administrative/development offices. Call (605) 773-3458 or visit <u>www.history.sd.gov</u> for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.