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State Historical Society officials promote June symposium in Black Hills

PIERRE, S.D. – Officials with the South Dakota State Historical Society are encouraging interested people to attend a symposium in the Black Hills in June.

The Case Library for Western Historical Studies at Black Hills State University in Spearfish and the Fort Meade Cavalry Museum are sponsoring a symposium and tour on June 1-3 that will highlight the region's rich history.

Titled "Forts, Wars and Treaties on the Northern Plains," the event will include an opening reception, presentations by Western history experts including Jerome A. Greene, Paul Hedren, Eli Paul, Randy Kane, Mike Her Many Horses, Donovan Sprague and Paul Higbee; a book signing, library tour and an all-day tour of Fort Meade and Bear Butte.

"Regional history symposiums offer the information and stories that bring a fuller understanding to our state's history," said David Wolff of Spearfish, vice president of the State Historical Society's board of trustees and one of the coordinators of the event. "This symposium will look at the history of the Northern Plains, with an emphasis on the Black Hills. The topics to be discussed, especially Indian/White relations and military encounters, have a strong connection to what went on during the settling of Dakota Territory."

"The symposium is an opportunity for scholars and enthusiasts to share insights and knowledge about the multifaceted history of the Black Hills and the Northern Plains, as well as highlight the resources of the Case Library and Fort Meade Cavalry Museum," said Jay D. Vogt, director of the State Historical Society, headquartered at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

Other sponsors include the Deadwood Historic Preservation Commission, the West River Foundation, South Dakota Humanities Council, BHSU President Tom Jackson, Jr., the BHSU College of Liberal Arts and the E.Y. Berry Library-Learning Center.

For more details and a registration form, either do a web search for Special Collections, Black Hills State University, and click the link for the 2017 Case Library Symposium, or visit <http://iis.bhsu.edu/lis/specColl/>.

Contact Wolff at David.Wolff@bhsu.edu or Bobbi Sago at (605) 642-6361 with questions.

About the South Dakota State Historical Society

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 www.history.sd.gov for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.