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### **State Historical Society- Archives website voted among best of 2010**

PIERRE, S.D. -- *Family Tree Magazine* designated the South Dakota State Historical Society-State Archives one of the "Best State Websites 2010." The site is located at <http://history.sd.gov/archives>

"This award is a significant achievement for the State Archives because we have been committed to adding content to the website and making the site user-friendly," stated Chelle Somsen, State Archivist. "The State Archives staff work diligently to ensure that the information online is accurate and of high quality, so to be recognized for that is important."

*Family Tree Magazine* recognizes the genealogical information available on the website for research. The State Archives has indexes for naturalization records, cemetery records, General Federation of Women's Club Pioneer Daughters records, the 1885 Civil War Veteran's Census, a Spanish American War roster, recent names in the newspapers, and a newspaper database.

Although the award focuses on genealogical resources, the site also boasts indexes to a number of collections, including military records, American Indian records, women's history collections, Missouri River records and notable South Dakotans.

The State Archives is also in the process of adding digitized versions of photographs from the collections to the website which will only add to the appeal of the site, Somsen said. The indexes and information provided on the website are the entrance point to the archives, and researchers are encouraged to contact the State Archives if they have questions.

The State Historical Society-Archives is open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and the first Saturday of each month. For information see <http://history.sd.gov/archives> or call (605)773-3804.

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*The South Dakota State Historical Society is a division of the Department of Tourism. The society 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](http://www.history.sd.gov) for more information. The society also has an archaeology office in Rapid City; call (605) 394-1936 for more information.*