

For more information contact: Jeff Mammenga, South Dakota State Historical Society, 900 Governors Dr., Pierre, SD 57501  
Phone — (605) 773-6000; Fax — (605) 773-6041; Email — Jeff.Mammenga@state.sd.us; Website — www.history.sd.gov

## National Register defines work of State Historic Preservation Office

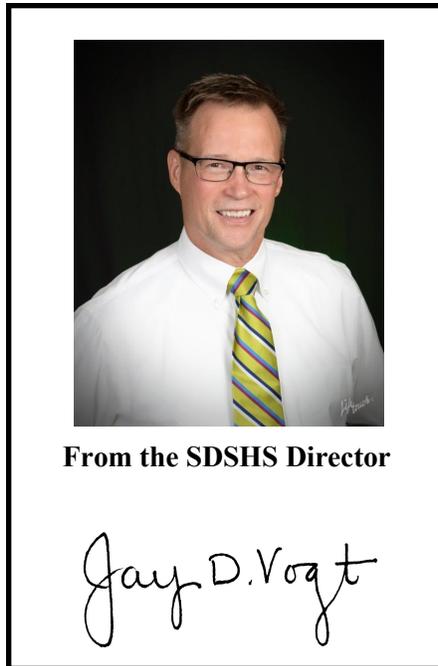
**H**istoric properties can be magnificent or modest, common-place or unusual, or a building or a place. Some properties may be in impeccable condition or run-down. The South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees recently recommended five properties to the National Register of Historic Places, and they cover the gamut of descriptions of historic properties.

For a property to be eligible for the National Register, typically the building or structure is 50-years-old or older, it maintains its historical integrity (the physical appearance and character-defining features that make it historic are intact), and it is important in or represents our history (national, state, or local). The historical importance must fit into at least one of four criteria: A, B, C or D.

**P**inciple A represents an important period, movement or trend in history. All five properties nominated by the Board of Trustees met this condition. For example, the East Side Fire Station and Branch Library, Sioux Falls, fit in the areas of education, government and politics.

Principle B represents an association with a person important to our past. The Gale Buildings, Canton, are related to Francis “Frank” A. Gale, businessman, community leader and politician. This is the only property that was connected to a person.

Principle C represents a good example of an architectural style, craftsmanship, or engineering. Four of the properties fell under this criterion. The Shady Lawn School No. 8, near De Smet, and the Pierre American Legion Cabin, Pierre, are good examples of building styles.



Principle D represents the potential to yield new information. These are primarily archaeological sites, and only the multiple property listing qualified for this criterion. The Bison Kill Sites in South Dakota (jumps, impoundments, general kill sites and isolated drive lines) have the possibility of revealing new data on prehistoric, historic and American Indian activities.

**H**owever, several conditions also impact the eligibility of properties for the National Register. For example, religious properties can only be listed for their architecture or art; moved properties, reconstructed buildings, and commemorative places are immensely difficult to list; and a grave can only be listed

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## Field Reports

Current officers of the Minnehaha County Historical Society in Sioux Falls, elected at the society’s annual meeting April 18, include: President, Ron Sauby; 1st Vice President, Blair Tremere; 2nd VP, Trevor VanConant; Treasurer, Jerry Kerkhove; Secretary, Sandy Dean; Archivist, David Brechtelsbauer; President Emeritus, Randy Maas; and Directors: Daren Anderson, Jim A. Carlson, Rick Lingberg, Tim Nicolai, Diane Olson and Dale VanConant.

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Executive Director Cindy Bahe has announced her resignation from the Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center in Fort Pierre, effective in June.

“After thoroughly thinking through many facets of my life I have decided to move to the Sioux Falls area to be closer to my family,” said Bahe. “This decision has been a difficult one as I’ve lived in this community for 26 years; I love the Fort Pierre/Pierre area and its people.

“The biggest perk in my job at the Rodeo Center has been the people. I have met so many interesting characters and I have been blessed in growing many friendships through the eight years I have been at the Rodeo Center. I wish the best for the rodeo center and its continued success.”

Going forward the executive director position will be split into two positions: executive director and event center manager. Interested parties can get more information at: [www.caseytibbs.com](http://www.caseytibbs.com)

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# Vogt

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if it is the last remaining evidence of a person of supreme importance. Of course, exceptions exist, but they require an exceptional amount of documentation and justification.

The work of our Office of Historic Preservation, also known as the State Historic Preservation Office or SHPO (Ship-O), is based on the National Register of Historic Places. The office implements the National Historic Preservation Act in South Dakota as well as two chapters of state laws. The office conducts surveys to identify potentially eligible properties for the National Register, maintains an inventory, nominates properties to the National Register, ensures that historic properties are taken into consideration with any governmental activity, cooperates with local governments on developing historic preservation programs, and provides public information and technical assistance to property owners and the public. In addition, the office provides incentives to encourage historic preservation through the Deadwood Fund grants, local government grants, property tax moratoriums and federal rehabilitation tax credits programs.

Historic preservation is good for the economy through rehabilitation of existing buildings and structures, as well as through tourism. Heritage tourism accounts for \$320 million annually for South Dakota's economy. Tourist destinations such as Mount Rushmore National Memorial and the World's Only Corn Palace are listed in the National Register. Reusing historic buildings reduces infrastructure costs by 80 percent versus new construction. Repairing existing residential buildings produces about 50 percent more jobs than building new ones and keeps material out of the landfills. More than 75 percent of the economic benefits of historic rehabilitation remain in the local economies.

Although the Office of Historic Preservation and the Board of Trustees nominate properties to the National Register, it is the Keeper of the National Register with the National Park Service that makes the final decision. Our philosophy is to only nominate properties believed to be eligible for the National Register, and South Dakota maintains an exemplary record. If you want to know more about the National Register or other historic preservation programs, visit the South Dakota State Historical Society website at <https://history.sd.gov/preservation/contact.aspx>. jdv



Governor's Award for History award winners included, seated from left: Gary Conradi; the Brookings County Historical Society & Museum in Volga, represented by Phil Wagner; the Elkhorn Ridge Development Company of Lakewood, Col., represented by Chris Wehrle; Jeanne Ode of the State Historical Society, who accepted the Schell Award on behalf of Lisa R. Lindell; and Scott Beehler, History Teacher of the Year. Presenting the awards were, standing from left: Brad Tennant of Aberdeen, president of the State Historical Society board of trustees; Jay D. Vogt of Pierre, director of the State Historical Society; and Benjamin Jones of Pierre, secretary of the state Department of Education. (Photo courtesy Richard Carlson, Fassbender Photographic Collection, Deadwood)

## Governor's Awards for History awarded

The Brookings County Historical Society/Museum in Volga and the Elkhorn Ridge Development Company of Lakewood, Col., were given Organizational Governors Awards for History by the South Dakota State Historical Society on April 26 during the society's annual history conference in Pierre.

The Brookings group was recognized for 80 years of gathering and displaying items related to Brookings County and the surrounding area.

Elkhorn Ridge is responsible for the redevelopment of the historic Frawley Ranch near Spearfish.

Other Governor's Awards included: Individual — Gary Conradi of Sioux Falls for his documentary photographic work in Minnehaha County and across the state; History Teacher of the Year — Scott Beehler of Iroquois; Schell Award for best article in "South Dakota History" — Lisa R. Lindell of Brookings.

## More Field Reports

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The South Dakota State Railroad Museum in Hill City kicked off its visitor season on May 6. Museum hours will be 9 a.m.-4 p.m. daily now through June 2, then expand to 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. from June 3 through Oct. 13. For more information visit [www.sdsrm.com](http://www.sdsrm.com)

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The West River History Conference is moving from Rapid City

to Deadwood this year. The conference will be held Oct. 11-12 at the Historic Martin & Mason Hotel. The theme is "The Way Out West."

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The Historic Homestake Opera House in Lead hosted its first parent-child music class, "Music & Movement with Friends," April 12 and May 17. The program brought together nursery rhymes, play, movement and song to build up music and child development.