

## Primary Source Resources for Solving Mysteries:

- a) BLM (Land Patent) Records:  
Download Location:  
<https://gloreCORDS.blm.gov/search/default.aspx?searchTabIndex=0&searchByTypeIndex=0>  
The search feature allows you to directly enter the section, township and range. More often than not, this will give names of potential “first settlers”, that can be further researched.  
**DOCUMENTS-FREE TO USE**
- b) Historic Newspapers of Nebraska:  
Download Location:  
<https://nebnewspapers.unl.edu/newspapers/>  
Not a comprehensive collection of historical newspapers, but a a no-cost solution.  
**DOCUMENTS-FREE TO USE**
- c) Historic Newspapers of Nebraska:  
Download Location:  
<https://nebraskaccess.nebraska.gov/websites/historicalnewspapers.asp>  
Not a comprehensive collection, but offers access to many historical Nebraska newspapers.  
**DOCUMENTS-FREE TO USE**
- d) [Newspapers.com](http://Newspapers.com) (paid site)  
While not a free resource, should you happen to have local access to the site, it offers the best and most comprehensive access to historical Nebraska newspapers. Check your local library or colleges for possible free access.  
**PAID SUBSCRIPTION**
- e) Nebraska State Archives/Digital Collection:  
Download Location:  
<https://nebraska.access.preservica.com/>  
The State of Nebraska offers extensive access to historical resources. In particular you may find photos of your school and its surroundings in the collection.  
**PHOTOS, MAPS, DOCUMENTS-FREE TO USE**
- f) Nebraska State Surveyor's Office:  
Download Location:  
<https://sso.nebraska.gov/maps/search-glo.html>  
Aside from the Government Land Office maps and Bureau of Land Management maps, the SSO website has many highly detailed railroad frontage maps.  
**MAPS-FREE TO USE**

- g) USGS Earth Explorer:  
Download Location:  
<https://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/>  
This site requires the creation of an account. However, it is well worth it. When searching, drop a pin on the location you desire, and then select “aerial imagery” and then select “aerial photos single frames” This will allow you to download high resolution photos of your school’s section from the 1950’s through the 1980’s. Please note that the 1:18,000 scale photos have amazing detail!  
**PHOTOS-FREE TO USE-REQUIRES CREATING ACCOUNT**
- h) Nebraska Memories  
Download Location:  
<https://memories.ne.gov/>  
Various collections of historical photos, often times not found elsewhere.  
**PHOTOS-FREE TO USE**

#### **Local Institutions:**

(Every attempt has been made to create a comprehensive list, however, some of the information here may be out-of-date, obsolete or incorrect)

[Adams County Historical Society](#)  
[Antelope County Historical Society](#)  
[Banner County Historical Society](#)  
[Boone County Historical Society](#)  
[Box Butte - Knight Museum & Sandhills Center](#)  
[Brown County Historical Society](#)  
[Buffalo County Historical Society](#)  
[Burt County Museum](#)  
[Butler County Historical Society](#)  
[Cass County Historical Society](#)  
[Cedar County Historical Museum](#)  
[Chase County Historical Museum](#)  
[Cherry County Historical Society](#)  
[Cheyenne County Historical Society](#)  
[Colfax - Schuyler Historical Society](#)  
[Cuming County Historical Society](#)  
[Custer County Historical Society](#)  
[Dakota County Historical Society](#)  
[Dawson County Historical Society](#)  
[Dodge - Louis E. May Historical Museum](#)  
[Douglas County Historical Society](#)  
[Fillmore County Historical Society](#)

[Frontier County Historical Society](#)  
[Gage County Historical Society](#)  
[Hall County Historical Society](#)  
[Hamilton - Plainsman Museum](#)  
[Holt County Historical Society](#)  
[Jefferson County Historical Society](#)  
[Johnson County Historical Society](#)  
[Kearney County Historical Society](#)  
[Keith County Historical Society](#)  
[Knox County Historical Society](#)  
[Lancaster - LCHS Online](#)  
[Lincoln County Historical Society](#)  
[Madison County Historical Museum](#)  
[Nemaha County Historical Society](#)  
[Otoe County Historical Society](#)  
[Pawnee City HS & Museum](#)  
[Phelps - Nebraska Prairie Museum](#)  
[Pierce County Historical Society](#)  
[Platte County Historical Society](#)  
[Richardson County Historical Society](#)  
[Sarpy County Museum](#)  
[Saunders County Historical Society](#)  
[Seward County Historical Society](#)  
[Thayer County Museum](#)  
[Washington County Historical Assn.](#)  
[Wayne County Historical Society](#)  
[York County Historical Association \(NE\)](#)

## **Specialized Science, Technology & Invention**

- [Edgerton Explorit Center](#) (Aurora) – Honoring Dr. Harold Edgerton, inventor of the strobe light.
- [Kregel Windmill Factory Museum](#) (Nebraska City) – The only intact historic windmill factory in the U.S.
- [Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum](#) (Ashland) – Premier Cold War aviation and space museum.
- [Lester F. Larsen Tractor Test & Power Museum](#) (Lincoln) – Located on the site of the world's only state-mandated tractor testing lab.
- [Kiewit Luminarium](#) (Omaha) – A high-tech, hands-on science and engineering center on Omaha's riverfront.
- [Museum of American Speed](#) (Lincoln) – Dedicated to automotive racing and performance history.

## Arts, Culture & Literature

- [Joslyn Art Museum](#) (Omaha) – Nebraska's primary fine arts institution.
- [National Willa Cather Center](#) (Red Cloud) – Global headquarters for Cather's literary legacy.
- [International Quilt Museum](#) (Lincoln) – The world's largest public collection of quilts.
- [Bone Creek Museum of Agrarian Art](#) (David City) – The only museum in the U.S. dedicated to agricultural art.
- [Sheldon Museum of Art](#) (Lincoln) – A landmark collection of American art.
- [Museum of Nebraska Art \(MONA\)](#) (Kearney) – The official state collection of Nebraska-focused art.
- [Robert Henri Museum](#) (Cozad) – Childhood home of the famed American realist painter.
- [Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts](#) (Omaha) – A leading international artist-in-residence program and gallery.
- [El Museo Latino](#) (Omaha) – The first Latino art and history museum in the Midwest.

## Special Interest & Niche Museums

- [National Museum of Roller Skating](#) (Lincoln) – The only museum of its kind in the world.
- [Museum of the Fur Trade](#) (Chadron) – Global authority on the history of the North American fur trade.
- [Nebraska Museum of Major League Baseball](#) (St. Paul) – Honors all Nebraskans who reached the Major Leagues.
- [Petrified Wood & Art Gallery](#) (Ogallala) – Extensive collection of fossilized wood and ancient artifacts.
- [Clayton Museum of Ancient History](#) (York) – Rare Roman and Near Eastern artifacts at York University.
- [Great Plains Welsh Heritage Project](#) (Wymore) – Preserving the heritage of Welsh immigrants in the region.
- [American Historical Society of Germans from Russia](#) (Lincoln) – International headquarters for this genealogical group.
- [Nebraska National Guard Museum](#) (Seward) – Military history from the territorial era to today.
- [Heartland Museum of Military Vehicles](#) (Lexington) – A vast collection of operational tanks and helicopters.
- [Museum of Shadows](#) (Omaha) – Famous collection of paranormal and "haunted" artifacts.
- [Boys Town Hall of History](#) (Boys Town) – Chronicles Father Flanagan's work with children.

## Interpretive Centers & National Landmarks

- [Missouri River Basin Lewis & Clark Center](#) (Nebraska City) – Focuses on the flora and fauna discovered by the 1804 expedition.

- [The Archway](#) (Kearney) – An iconic monument detailing the history of the Platte River Road.
- [The Durham Museum](#) (Omaha) – Regional history housed in Omaha's Art Deco Union Station.
- [Homestead National Historical Park](#) (Beatrice) – Commemorating the 1862 Homestead Act.
- [Legacy of the Plains Museum](#) (Gering) – Focused on High Plains agricultural and settlement history.
- [Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer](#) (Grand Island) – A world-class outdoor living history town.
- [Harold Warp Pioneer Village](#) (Minden) – Over 50,000 items showcasing "man's progress" across 20 acres.

### **Natural History & Prehistoric Sites**

- [Ashfall Fossil Beds](#) (Royal) – Skeletons of prehistoric rhinos preserved in volcanic ash.
- [University of Nebraska State Museum \(Morrill Hall\)](#) (Lincoln) – World-renowned mammoth fossils and natural science.
- [Trailside Museum of Natural History](#) (Crawford) – Features the famous "clashing mammoths" fossil.