

Getting to the Source: Nebraska Joins the Union

"Getting to the Source" brochures supplement various exhibits produced by History Nebraska. They are intended to lead researchers to original documents in the Library/Archives that staff used in developing the exhibit text. These materials, and many more fascinating documents, are available for use in the public reading rooms of History Nebraska at 1500 "R" Street in Lincoln. The staff there will be happy to help you get to the source.

***Photograph "Ogalillah (sic) Sioux Village, North fork of the Platte, Na." (B588.5)**

A rare photograph by American artist Albert Bierstadt taken of a Lakota village in 1859.

***Records for [Forts Atkinson](#) (RG502), [Kearny](#) (RG505), [Laramie](#) (RG520), [McPherson](#) (RG503), [Omaha](#) (RG517), and [Randall](#) (RG521)**

These collections include correspondence, post returns, and other materials documenting military activities, such as protection of migrants along the overland trails and scouting maneuvers in Nebraska Territory.

****The Great Platte River Road* (978.2/H62p/v.25) and**

****Platte River Road Narratives* (978.2/M43p) by Merrill J. Mattes**

Mattes's history of the overland migrations in *The Great Platte River Road* describes cultural aspects of the westward migration, including food, dress, equipment, organization, accidents, disease, and death. His *Platte River Road Narratives* identifies, describes, and evaluates over two thousand overland accounts.

***[Michael Allen Shine Manuscript Collection](#) (RG3626)**

This collection of research materials includes biographies of fur traders and notes on explorations of the trans-Mississippi West.

***[Moses Merrill Manuscript Collection](#) (RG2242)**

Correspondence, diaries, and addresses of this Baptist missionary, as well as financial and school reports of the Otoe Baptist Mission, attest to Merrill's missionary work with the Otoe Indians of Nebraska.

***[Legislature Archives Collection](#) (RG056)**

This collection includes records of the territorial legislature relating to such topics as the formation of state and local governments, establishment of towns, defining of county boundaries, and the incorporation of businesses and ferry companies.

****History of the State of Nebraska* (978.2/An2/v.1&2) by A.T. Andreas**

First published in 1882, this 1975 reprint covers the state's territorial history, including the territory's Civil War history and the organization and early settlement of counties in existence in 1882.

***[Theodore W. Bedford Manuscript Collection](#) [RG1170]**

Outgoing correspondence of this Brownville merchant details the Civil War's effect on Missouri River trade and traffic.

****The Omaha Nebraskan* (film 071/Om1n)**

This early territorial newspaper covers the time period from November 1855 to December 1860.

***Photographs "Mormon Camp, Wyoming, N.T." and "Mormon Train fording North Platte" (E54-32 & 33)**

Two photographs by noted western photographer Charles R. Savage of emigrants on the overland trail in 1866.

***1846 Topographical Map of the Road from Missouri to Oregon Commencing at the Mouth of the Missouri River in Kansas (M78/1846/P92)**

This series of maps, in seven sections, was compiled by Charles Preuss from the field notes of Captain John C. Fremont and from Preuss's sketches and notes.