Getting to the Source: The First Nebraskans

"Getting to the Source" brochures supplement various exhibits produced by the Nebraska State Historical Society. 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 the Society at 1500 "R" Street in Lincoln. The staff there will be happy to help you get to the source.

*Eli S. Ricker Manuscript Collection [RG1227]*
The "Ricker tablets" contain transcripts of interviews Ricker held with Native Americans, pioneers, and military veterans. These provide a treasure trove of information about Indian/white history.

*Native American Photograph Collections*
Over fifty collections pertaining to Native Americans are available on videotape. These can be viewed at the Society, borrowed via interlibrary loan, or purchased.

*Biographical and Historical Index of American Indians and Persons Involved in Indian Affairs*
Produced by the U.S. Dept. of the Interior, this eight volume set is arranged by name and subject. It provides references to Indian chiefs and other prominent leaders, agents, personnel of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, battles, and other topics of Native American history.

*In the Days of '75 and '76 (AV2.254)*
This 1915 western film, made in Chadron, contains rare footage of Sioux Indians, including women and children.

*Iapi Oaye - The Word Carrier (970.1/Sa5i)*
Newspapers of the Santee Normal Training School are available on microfilm.

*U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs [RG508]*
This collection documents the government's administration of Indian affairs and provides information on interaction between Indians and whites.

*Bettelyoun, Susan B. [RG3113]*
Daughter of a fur trader and a Brule Dakota, Bettelyoun wrote about Indian/white conflicts that she witnessed on the plains during the latter half of the nineteenth century.

*Black Elk Speaks: Being the Life Story of a Holy Man of the Oglala Sioux as told through John G. Neihardt (970.2/B627nb)*
Black Elk's life story and the history of the Oglala Sioux during the period of the battle at the Little Big Horn, the rise of the ghost dance, and the Wounded Knee massacre are described in this 1932 classic.

*Junior League Indian Literature Project (AV2.091)*
The Junior League of Lincoln sponsored this series of filmed oral history interviews with tribal elders of the Sioux, Santee, Otoe, Pawnee, and Missouri tribes.

*Ft. Robinson [RG501]*
Records include materials relating to the 1879 Cheyenne Outbreak and the death of Crazy Horse.

*La Flesche Family Manuscript Collection [RG2026]*
*Iron Eye's Family: The Children of Joseph La Flesche* (970.3/G82f)

The life and accomplishments of Joseph La Flesche and his children, who worked for the interests of the Omaha tribe, are reflected in these resources.

*Folk Music of the U.S.* (AV1.066)

*Music of the American Indian* (AV1.088)

Included in these collections are song recordings of the Sioux, Pawnee, Northern Ute, Omaha, Comanche, Cheyenne, Kiowa, Caddo, and Wichita.