

Nevada's Oldest Museum

Founded in 1904, the Nevada Historical Society (NHS) seeks to advance the study of the heritage of Nevada, the Great Basin, and the West.

The mission of the NHS is to collect, preserve, and educate the public about our shared history through exhibitions, artifacts, books, photographs, and manuscript materials relating to the state of Nevada, the Great Basin, and the West.

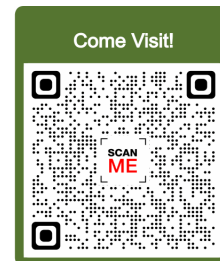
Our founder, Dr. Jeanne Wier, became a UNR professor in the Department of History and Political Science in 1899 and served as department head for many years before her retirement in 1940.

It was, however, Wier's extracurricular activities that allowed her to leave her most lasting mark on Nevada. She was deeply involved with the women's suffrage movement in the state, and for almost half a century, from the time she helped found the institution in 1904 until her death in 1950, she led the Nevada Historical Society.

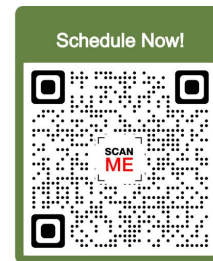
In her capacity as executive secretary, she provided essential leadership for the NHS in its early years, establishing its structure and basic activities, developing its library and museum collections, and securing quarters for those collections. She also developed a program for publishing historical writings and documents.

By recognizing the importance of preserving the state's history and making it accessible to everyone, Jeanne Wier left succeeding generations of Nevadans, and all those interested in the state's history, in her debt.

You can scan the below QR Codes to schedule your next gallery visit or an appointment in the Research Library.



Gallery Visit

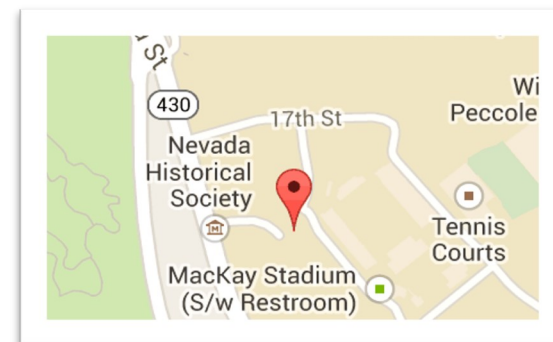


Research Library

Nevada's Oldest Cultural Institution **Nevada Historical Society**

1650 North Virginia Street
Reno, NV 89503
Phone: 775-688-1190
www.nvhistoricalsociety.org
Admission - \$6 per adult
Children under 18 & members - Free

NHS is part of the Dept. of Tourism & Cultural Affairs, Div. of Museums & History



A Free Artown Event



Artown 2022 Talks & Gallery Guides



We hope to whet your appetite for Nevada history with these seven great 15 minute talks before you explore our galleries with our Educational gallery guides being available to answer questions!

NHS is a proud participant in Artown, providing history talks and tours since 2014.



Families visiting our Nevada Gallery, University District Family Day.



Artown visitors getting a special gambling history tour.



Families being greeted for our University District Family Day.

Artown Talks and Tours

Wednesday, July 6 at 10:30am

A Collecting We Will Go: Dr. Wier's 1908 Southern Nevada Trip with Sherlyn Hayes-Zorn

Hear the story of founding Nevada Historical Society director, Dr. Wier's trip to Southern Nevada during July and August of 1908. Learn how Jeanne Elizabeth Wier travelled by train, wagon, and horse to document and preserve mining camps, towns, and early pioneer histories, records, and artifacts, including former Senator William Stewart's law office materials in Bullfrog, Nevada.

Wednesday, July 6 at 1:00pm

Miss Wakayama, Peacemaker with Betsy Morse

Miss Wakayama, a gift to Nevada from the people of Japan, is both a beautiful work of art and an unlikely peacemaker. She was part of an innovative attempt to reduce international tensions by exchanging dolls. Hear about the success of that effort, the changes in her fortunes during the Second World War, and the mystery of the doll's identity.

Wednesday, July 13 at 10:30am

Bill Fong's New China Club with Sarah Patton

When Bill Fong opened the New China Club in Reno in 1952, it was one of the only casinos in town where African Americans and Asian Americans were welcome. In addition to offering the first legal fan-tan and pai-gow games in Nevada, Fong and the New China Club sponsored the Keno Queen beauty contest and the Fong Open golfing tournament. Come see photographs from each of these events and learn more about this ahead-of-its-time establishment through exploration of material from the Nevada Historical Society library, manuscript collections, photographs, artifacts, and research resources.

Artown Talks and Tours

Wednesday, July 13 at 1:00pm

Wahmonie: Nevada's Last Bonanza Discovery- or the First? with Joe Tingley

Stan Paher, in his classic book *Nevada Ghost Towns and Mining Camps*, described Wahmonie as Nevada's "last flamboyant mining rush." The 1928 rush to Wahmonie was by automobile, not burro, and only spawned a tent city which had largely evaporated by 1930. If discoveries by Mormons in 1853 (or maybe 1847) at the old Horn Silver Mine could be verified, the first mining at Wahmonie would predate the 1859 discovery of the Comstock by at least six years.

Wednesday, July 20 at 10:30am & 1:00pm

The Winters Family of California and Nevada with Lorraine Petersen

Meet the Winters of California and Nevada - A family that improved the land wherever they settled. Winters, California, is named for this family. The pioneers headed their wagons toward California and the Oregon Territory. Eventually, some families backtracked and made Nevada their state. The Winters settled in Utah Territory before Nevada became a Territory. They helped develop the Nevada State Constitution and have helped govern and guide the state for generations. They started professional horse racing in the West; they were instrumental in giving us Nevada Day. Come and learn about the Winters of California and Nevada, a family that helped develop the West.

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Wednesday, July 27 at 10:30am

Tsars, Tea, and Volunteerism: The Nevada Historical Society's Docent Council with Catherine Magee

Discover how a Russian Tsars' tea set ends up in Nevada to play a role in the origins of the Nevada Historical Society's Docent Council. In this talk we take a journey with Russian Diplomats to Comstock Barons to Divorce Ranch Owners to Reno volunteers. We will explore this and more to learn how this 40-year-old NHS Docent organization has helped our local and state-wide community through free educational outreach programs. Come be inspired by what our Docent Council could do in the next 40 years.

Wednesday, July 27 at 1:00pm

If Streets Could Talk with Susan Moore-Fry

Imagine viewing from the level of a drone the city streets, and as you pass over a short film of the namesake's history is played. What would you hear? Who was once engaged to Vanderbilt's daughter? Who was a cowboy gambler from Arkansas? Who was an early mountain man? Who was Governor when gambling was legalized in 1931? Was it Whittaker? Or Ralston? Could it be Beckwourth? Come hear the answer to



Don't miss our famous two-headed calf!