

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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Anyone is welcome to join our society, whether you reside locally or elsewhere in the world.

Please do come to one of our meetings, enjoy the program, and meet the other members of our group. You may join and become a member at any meeting. Membership dues are \$10.00 per person or \$25.00 for a family

Name

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Address

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City

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State          Zip Code

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Phone Number

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E-Mail Address

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Memberships run from January 1 to December 31 and renewals are made during our January meeting.

Please mail this form to:

Washington County Genealogical Society  
ATTN: Membership Application  
2233 Civic Drive  
Blair NE 68008

or join online at:

<http://www.newwashcogs.org>

Members are encouraged to provide an up-to-date family tree as well as surnames under research to the WCGS.

As one of the original counties formed in the Nebraska Territory, Washington County is also one of the most historic. It was explored as early as 1739 by Paul and Pierre Mallet, who were on a trapping expedition to Canada. In 1804, Lewis and Clark reported the establishment of the new United States Government to a Council of Indian chiefs near the present site of Fort Calhoun. As a result of this Council, Fort Atkinson was established in 1819 and served as a key Midwestern outpost until its abandonment in 1827.

The first permanent settlement in Washington County was made in 1854. In that same year, the county was organized as one of the eight original counties proclaimed by acting Governor Thomas B. Cuming. The county seat has been located in three different towns: Fort Calhoun, De Soto, and finally at Blair, its present site since 1869.



WASHINGTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

BLAIR PUBLIC LIBRARY

2233 Civic Drive  
Blair NE 68008

Phone: 402-426-3617

<http://www.newwashcogs.org>

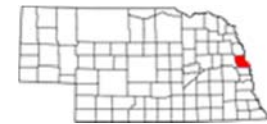
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The image on the cover is the Washington County Courthouse in Blair, Nebraska. It was completed in the spring of 1891.

## WASHINGTON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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## WASHINGTON COUNTY NEBRASKA



<http://www.newwashcogs.org>

## ABOUT US

The Washington County Genealogical Society was formed in June 1975. The purpose of the WCGS is to promote research and give guidance to those who are tracing their family lines through the searching of records, people and places. The society continues to foster an interest in all peoples who contributed in any way to the establishment and perpetuation of the county. The WCGS is a volunteer organization. Many of the society's projects are the collection, copying, and cataloguing of historical documents for anyone to use. The volunteers have a "look-up" service for those who do not live in the area. Please mail "look-up" requests to the address on the back or visit: <http://www.newashcogs.org>

Donations are appreciated and may be requested to offset research expenses.

The WCGS generally meets the first Wednesday of the month at 2PM at the Blair Public Library. Check our web site for updates.

## GENERAL RESOURCES

### Online Burials, Obituaries, & Marriages.

A searchable online database of 11,500 burials, over 16,000 marriages, and almost 18,000 transcribed obituaries in Washington County. <http://www.newashcogs.org>

**Danish Immigrant Archives.** A collection devoted to collecting and preserving materials relating to the cultural heritage of Danish immigrants of North America and their descendants. One of these is the Vig collection; which consists of letters, documents, photographs, and memorabilia of people who lived in Washington County. <http://danishamericanarchive.com>

## BLAIR PUBLIC LIBRARY RESOURCES

**Obituary Collection.** Thousands of area obituaries indexed on 5x8 note cards and clipped from local newspapers.

**Cemetery Transcriptions.** Alphabetical list of residents and dates. Organized by cemetery. Printed copies available (also available online).

**References.** The following books are available for research in the library's genealogical section, along with much more.

*A History of Washington County, Nebraska.* By Forrest B. Schrader. c. 1937; with index.

*Historic Washington County...A Journey into Nebraska's Past.* c. 1992. 15 pages.

*History of Dodge & Washington Counties.* Vol. I & II, c. 1921; with index.

*History of Washington County, Nebraska.* By John T. Bell. c. 1985.

*Lest We Forget: A History of Washington County, Nebraska.* By John A. Rhoades. c. 1954. 59 pages.

*Men and Women of Nebraska, A Book of Portraits.* Washington County Ed. c. 1903; with index.

*Portal to the Plains, A History of Washington County, Nebraska.* By Niel M. Johnson. c. 1972. 48 pages.

*Research Guide to Genealogical Data in Washington County, Nebraska.* By the Nebraska State Genealogical Society. c. 1996. 39 pages.

*Washington County Nebraska History.* By the Washington County Nebraska Historical Association, c. 1980, with surname index. 464 pages.

**Marriage Extractions.** Brides and Grooms, April 1856—Dec 1899. Index of witnesses and parents, 1856—1874.



**County Atlases.** 1884, 1913, 1920, 1948, 1963, 1985, 1991, 1998, 2000, 2001.

**Census Indexes.** 1856, 1857, 1860, 1870, 1885.

**Census Microfilm.** 1860, 1870, 1880, 1885, 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930.

### Marriage Records Microfilm.

**Newspaper Microfilm.** Available newspapers may have started or stopped printing any-time during the years listed. Most were published weekly.

<i>Arlington Review-Herald</i>	1901-1902 & 1908-1951
<i>Blair Courier</i>	1889-1907
<i>Blair Democrat</i>	1905-1906 & 1915-1918
<i>Blair Pilot</i>	1876-1929
<i>Blair Republican</i>	1896-1900 & 1902-1905
<i>Blair Times/Blair Republican</i>	(some issues missing) 1872-1896
<i>Democrat/Courier</i>	1906-1915
<i>Fort Calhoun Chronicle</i>	1917-1946
<i>Herman Record</i>	1920-1946
<i>Kennard Enterprise</i>	1897-1917
<i>Tribune</i>	1908-1917 & 1918-1929
<i>Washington County Enterprise*</i>	1917-curr
<i>Washington County Pilot-Tribune*</i>	1930-curr
<i>Weekly Leader</i>	1895-1897

\*Newspapers still published weekly.