Dedicated to the German-Russian people who have done pioneer work on the steppes, prairies and pampas of the world.

Joseph S. Height from “Homesteaders on the Steppe”
Whether you seek information on your family tree or the perfect kuchen recipe, the Germans from Russia Heritage Collection is a valuable resource. It is located in the North Dakota State University Library, the state’s land-grant university.

Since its inception in 1978, this specialized archives has become one of the most comprehensive collections of German-Russian resources in the world.

Today, GRHC has expanded its activities and projects to include:
- Audio oral history interviews,
- Clothing and textiles,
- Dakota Memories Oral History Project,
- Electronic discussion groups,
- Heritage tours to Ukraine and Germany,
- Online resources,
- Outreach programs,
- Photo archives,
- Publications, and
- Translations.

In 2000, The Marie Rudel Portner Germans from Russia Endowment was established to assist in privately funding this collection.

Gisela Schilling Keller established the Udo Gerhard Keller zu Kellerrode Fund in 2001 to provide resources for publishing projects.
Research archives

The GRHC archives provide many resources for scholarly research, including family histories, information on ethnic culture and foodways, maps and specialized collections from donors/historians.

Special collections

Here are examples of collections available for scholarly research.

**Walter & Alice Riedlinger Essig:** Community and county histories of North and South Dakota families

**Thomas J. Hoffman:** Catholic German families in Europe and North America

**Herbert Poppke:** Comprehensive cultural identification including specialized maps

**Gwen Bernice Black Pritzkau:** Genealogical research

**Ernest E. Zeiszler:** Lutheran/Reformed German families of Crimea, Hutchinson County, S.D., and Mercer County, N.D.

GRHC features several photographic collections including the Graf-Buck, Kusler-Grosz, Baumgartner, Fischer-Masterson and Marguerite Lien Bullinger collections. Other collections focus on theology and music/hymnal themes, such as the Leona Woeszner Neu Collection.

Journey to the Homeland Tours

The GRHC hosts special tours for individuals and families who wish to travel from the United States and Canada to Germany and Odessa, Ukraine. Travelers visit the villages of their ancestors near Odessa, including the former Black Sea, Bessarabian and Crimean German villages. Since our first tour in May 1996, we have sponsored at least one trip per year.

For more information:

🌐 www.ndsu.edu/grhc/outreach/journey

“It was a trip that will impact my life forever. I made great friends, met wonderful people, ate great food, visited the most interesting places, formed the most endearing memories, and found my roots.”

– Dr. Harley Roth, San Jose, Calif., member of a 2002 tour
**Dakota Memories Oral History Project**

The GRHC staff launched the Dakota Memories Oral History Project (DMOHP) in 2005. The DMOHP organizers designed this project to document the cultural heritage and preserve the childhood memories of second- and third-generation Germans from Russia on the Northern Plains.

For more information:

[www.ndsu.edu/grhc/dakotamemories](http://www.ndsu.edu/grhc/dakotamemories)

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**Textiles and clothing donations**

For donations of textiles and clothing, the GRHC staff collaborates with the Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection, College of Human Development and Education, NDSU.

For more information:

[www.ndsu.edu/erhcc](http://www.ndsu.edu/erhcc)

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**German-Russian historic photographs**

You can help us build our photo collection of historic German-Russian photographs including images of weddings, homemaking, farming, military and family. We will handle your family photos with great care, keeping them only long enough to create digital copies. We appreciate your cooperation in loaning your photographs and other historical documents for archival preservation, publications and exhibits.

For more information:

[www.ndsu.edu/grhc/history_culture/photo](http://www.ndsu.edu/grhc/history_culture/photo)
**Items available for purchase**

Books, cookbooks, maps, cassette tapes, CDs, videotapes and DVDs can be found at the GRHC Web site, by calling 701-231-6596 or visiting us in the NDSU Library. Here, you’ll find books in both English and German, resources on this important ethnic group, regional books and a variety of music.

You’ll also find numerous award-winning documentaries. The GRHC works closely with Prairie Public Broadcasting, providing financial assistance and research for acclaimed documentaries such as “Schmeckfest: Food Traditions of the Germans from Russia,” and “Prairie Crosses, Prairie Voices: Iron Crosses of the Great Plains.”

*For more information:*

[www.ndsu.edu/grhc/order](http://www.ndsu.edu/grhc/order)

**Culture, customs and foodways**

- Locate information on German-Russian food recipes, ethnic customs, folkways and traditions for events such as weddings, Christmas and New Year’s at [www.ndsu.edu/grhc/history_culture](http://www.ndsu.edu/grhc/history_culture)

- Find an extensive collection of regional, German and English cookbooks, all available for purchase at the GRHC.

- Use our “recipe index search” to search for and locate more than 10,000 recipe titles found in cookbooks available for purchase from GRHC at [www.ndsu.edu/grhc/recipes](http://www.ndsu.edu/grhc/recipes)
Donations to the GRHC collection

A financial gift from you will allow us to continue to preserve a living legacy for future generations, so they too will know the history and culture of the region’s Germans from Russia. All financial donations are greatly appreciated. Personal checks, debit and credit cards are accepted.

Another way to assist in our efforts is by donating family histories, oral histories, photographs and memorabilia.

For more information:
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Germans from Russia Heritage Collection
NDSU Library
1201 Albrecht Boulevard
P.O. Box 5599
Fargo, ND 58105-5599 USA
GRHC Web: www.ndsu.edu/grhc
NDSU Web: www.ndsu.edu
Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday

Location and parking
The Germans from Russia Heritage Collection is located in Room 114 on the first floor of the North Dakota State University Library, 12th Avenue North and Albrecht Boulevard, Fargo, N.D. Parking is available north of the NDSU Library; call GRHC for more information.
Our mission is to collect, document, preserve, exhibit, translate, publish, promote, and make accessible resources on the culture, history, folklore, textiles and clothing, and foodways of the Germans from Russia. Our focus is on Bessarabian, Black Sea, Crimean, Dobrudscha and Volhynian Germans and their descendents in North Dakota and the Northern Plains.

www.ndsu.edu/grhc