



NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

# Germans from Russia Heritage Collection

## *The story of the Germans from Russia*

begins more than 250 years ago. Through invitations from the Russian government, Germans immigrated to sparsely populated Russian territories with the promise of free land and freedom from military service and religious persecution. Immigration to the Volga region began in 1763, followed by waves of immigration to the Black Sea and Bessarabian regions in the early 1800s. German immigrants lived independently in their new villages until 1871, when a period of Russification began, and many of their promised freedoms were revoked. Between 1873 and 1914, over 100,000 Germans from Russia immigrated to the United States, many traveling to North Dakota and South Dakota under the Homestead Act. Others immigrated to Canada and South America.

**An estimated 30-40% of North Dakota's population has German-Russian ancestry.**

Whether you seek information about your family history, cultural heritage, or the perfect kuchen recipe, the NDSU Libraries' Germans from Russia Heritage Collection is a valuable resource. Founded in 1978, its mission is to share and preserve the history and culture of the Germans from Russia in North Dakota and the Northern Plains.

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

# What we do

## COLLECT & PRESERVE

- Clothing and Textiles
- Family Histories and Genealogy Resources
- Foodways and Recipes
- Photograph Collections
- Oral Histories

## OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

- Provide resources and curriculum support for students and faculty
- Advance scholarship through student internships and assistantships
- Host Journey to the Homeland Tours and community cultural events
- Produce television documentaries
- Publish books and translations

## ONLINE RESOURCES

Our website allows access to photographs, genealogy resources, oral histories, recipes, cultural traditions, archival finding aids, and related news.

Our online store offers additional resources that focus specifically on German-Russian communities, culture, history, genealogy, foodways, and traditions.

# Connect with us

**HOURS:** Monday–Friday, 8:00am–4:00pm

*Research appointments are highly recommended to ensure access to our archival collections.*

**LOCATION:** NDSU Main Library, First Floor  
1201 Albrecht Blvd., Fargo, ND 58102

## CONTACT US:

701.231.6596

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

