

Finding Aid to the Norene Roberts Papers

Roberts, Norene

Norene Roberts Papers, 1974-1995

2.5 linear ft.

Collection number: Mss 190

[Biography](#)

[Scope and Content](#)

[Box and Folder List](#)

OVERVIEW

Access: The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Institute.

Provenance: Donated by Norene Roberts, 1995 (Acc. 2412).

Property rights: The Institute for Regional Studies owns the property rights to this collection.

Copyrights: Copyright is held by the Institute for Regional Studies.

Citation: [Identification of item]. Norene Roberts Papers, MS 190, Institute for Regional Studies, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

BIOGRAPHY

Norene Roberts received her Master's and Ph.D. in American studies from the University of Minnesota in 1972 and 1978, respectively. Following her doctoral work, she was employed by the Minnesota State Historical Society as an architectural historian. In 1979 she established Historical Research Incorporated, for which the projects in this collection were completed. Some of her work includes those in this collection as well as numerous projects in Minnesota. In 1995 she moved from Minneapolis to Massachusetts.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Norene Roberts Papers is divided into two series: North Dakota Cities Series (arranged alphabetically by city), and Post Office Series (also arranged alphabetically by city). The North Dakota Cities Series also includes a special Courthouse sub-series.

The [North Dakota Cities Series](#) has been organized alphabetically by the name of the town. It includes files for the following towns: Bismarck, Devils Lake, Fargo, Grand Forks, Hillsboro, Jamestown, Mandan, Minot, Minto, Park River, Pisek, Portland, Valley City and Wahpeton. Also integrated into this collection are several files on courthouses, as well as the Icelandic State Park near Cavalier, N.D., and St. Joseph's Chapel in Walsh County. The most extensive files are for Devils Lake, Fargo, and Grand Forks. Within each town the files are arranged alphabetically by title.

The [Bismarck](#) section contains only a National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form (NRHP), of 12 pages, for the Cathedral Area Historic District.

The [Courthouse](#) section consists of NRHP forms for the Griggs and Stutsman county courthouses in Cooperstown and Jamestown, respectively. There is also a NRHP form (1980) for courthouses designed by Buechner and Orth: Traill County, Hillsboro; McHenry County, Towner; La Moure County, La Moure; Pierce County, Rugby; Foster County, Carrington; Sargent County, Forman; Dickey County, Ellendale; Richland County, Wahpeton; Pembina County, Cavalier; Grand Forks County, Grand Forks; Mountrail County, Stanley; Divide County, Crosby; McIntosh County, Ashley.

The [Devils Lake](#) section includes NRHP forms for the Locke Block and the downtown business district. Also included are histories, maps of Devils Lake, a cultural resources survey prepared by Kurt Schweigert of the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks

The [Fargo](#) section contains NRHP forms, research notes, and other data for 17 different locations as outlined in the box and folder listing. Also included are two folders of biographies of prominent people in Fargo around 1900, taken from printed sources. There is a copy of *An Historic Sites Inventory* from 1979 prepared by Ronald L.A. Ramsey. There are also histories of Fargo which include pictures of contemporary buildings, incomplete copies of street maps from 1896, 1901 and 1916 and copies of newspaper clippings from *The Forum* in the 1920s. The two files regarding North Dakota State University include Roberts' notes and the NRHP form.

The [Grand Forks](#) section is the largest set of town files, containing NRHP forms for twelve locations, and North Dakota Cultural Resources Survey (NDCRS) forms for thirty-six locations, some of which correspond to the NRHP forms. There is an in-house copy of their 1981 Grand Forks Survey Report, plus a statement by Roberts regarding the scope of her work and the methodology she employed in the Grand Forks project. There are a number of files regarding the St. Anne's Guest House and St. Michael's Hospital. Consult the container listing for specific buildings.

The [Hillsboro](#) section contains material dealing with the Ellingson farmstead including a NRHP form, contract, handwritten notes and photocopied photographs.

The [Icelandic State Park](#) files includes preliminary notes and texts for a historical exhibit developed regarding the region. Also included are various notes and material concerning the exhibit, such as an outline for a children's activity.

The [Jamestown](#) files contain material concerning the Elizabeth Apartments, including notes, correspondence and a NRHP form.

The [Mandan](#) section includes histories of Mandan, photocopied photographs of early 20th century postcards, and a NRHP form for the commercial district.

The [Minot](#) file contains a NRHP form for sites within the original townsites. The [Minto School](#) files contain correspondence, notes and a NRHP form for the school. The [Park River](#) files include correspondence, notes and a NDCRS form. The [Pisek School](#) files contain correspondence, notes and a NRHP form. The [Portland](#) file contains only a NRHP form for the Lucken Farm. The [St. Joseph's Chapel \(Walsh County\)](#) files contain a NRHP form, correspondence and notes. The [Valley City](#) section includes notes, histories, ordinances concerning zoning, and photocopied photographs. The [Wahpeton Hospital](#) files contain a contract, correspondence, notes and a NRHP form.

The [Post Offices Series](#) covers twenty-two cities and is broken down alphabetically. Each city file contains generally the same items with minor variances: NDCRS, NRHP forms, correspondence, notes, a postal survey documenting the property for the Post Office, and a questionnaire prepared by Roberts for the postmasters in the individual cities to fill out. In the New Rockford file is information about the mural artist. Also included in this series is the phase I study completed by Roberts and a list of expenses incurred by Roberts, including lodging, film developing, etc. There is also are copies of the applications for conducting research in North Dakota and the criteria that is to be followed.

SEPARATIONS RECORD

Publications (Cataloged into the Institute publications collection)

1. *Devils Lake/Ramsey County Historical Society*, 1983
2. *Walsh County Historical Society Newsletter* (v.3 no.1, Dec. 1976) (Jan 1990, Jan 1992)
3. *Final report on the 1986-1987 National Register Reconnaissance and Intensive Survey of Devils lake, North Dakota*, 1987
4. *Final report on the 1986-87 Reconnaissance Survey of Valley City, North Dakota*, Sep. 1987
5. *Cultural Resources Investigation of the Grand Forks/ East Grand Forks Urban Study and East Grand Forks Flood Control Project*, April 1981
6. *Cultural Resources Investigation of Homme Reservoir Walsh County, North Dakota- Popular Report*, 28 October 1981
7. *Cultural Resources Investigation of Homme Reservoir Walsh County, North Dakota*, 28 October 1981
8. *Cultural Resources Literature Search and Records review of Grafton, North Dakota Flood Control Project-Popular Report*, 26 May 1981

9. *Cultural Resources Literature Search and Records review of Grafton, North Dakota Flood Control Project*
10. *Historical Research report; Summer 1981 Historical and Architectural Survey of downtown Grand Forks, North Dakota*, Historical Research, Inc., 1981
11. *History of the City of Grand Forks to 1889*, by Alexander Aas, 1920
12. *Social History of Grand Forks, North Dakota, 1880-1914*, by Robert S. Anderson, 1951

Photographs (Institute Photograph 2015)

- Circa 200 of Roberts' projects in North Dakota

Maps (Added to Institute map collection)

- *Map of the City of Fargo, Cass County, North Dakota*, City Engineer Dept., Jan. 1, 1932
- *Downtown Fargo, N.D. National Register District*, with Norene Roberts' color-coded legend
- *Grand Forks, North Dakota and East Grand Forks, Minnesota*, compiled by H.G. Lykken, E.J. MacIlraith, corrected to March 1914; published by E.J. Lander & Co., Grand Forks, N.D.
- *Grand Forks Quadrangle*. United States Geological Survey, 1963; photo verified 1979

Newspapers (Added to Institute newspaper collection)

- Grand Forks Herald, *100th Anniversary Edition*, 1979
- Grand Forks Herald, *Souvenir Edition*, 29 Mar 1974
- Morton County and Mandan News, *Centennial Edition*, June 1981

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box/Folder	Contents
1/1	Finding aid, and Biographical material
	North Dakota Cities Series
	Bismarck, N.D.
1/2	Cathedral Area Historic District, National Register for Historic Places (NRHP, 1980)
	Courthouses
1/3	Buechner and Orth courthouses, NRHP, 1980
1/4	Griggs County Courthouse, NRHP, 1977
1/5	Stutsman County Courthouse, NRHP, 1976
	Devils Lake, N.D.
1/6	Business District, NRHP, 1981
1/7	Cultural Resources Inventory, June 1975-July 1977
1/8	Database
1/10	Histories

- 1/11 Histories
- 1/12 Locke Block, NRHP, correspondence, 1985
- 1/13 Maps
- 1/14 Notes
- 1/15 Ramsey County histories

Fargo, N.D.

- 1/16 Biographies
- 1/17 Biographies
- 1/18 Cass County Courthouse, notes; NRHP, 1983; correspondence, Sept.-Nov. 1983
- 1/19 Cole Hotel, notes; correspondence, March 1983; NRHP, 1983
- 1/20 Correspondence, January 8, 1977-December 8, 1988
- 1/21 de Lendrecie's (620 Main), NRHP, 1979
- 1/22 Dibley/Graf House (331 8th Ave. S), NRHP
- 1/23 Downtown, notes
- 1/24 Downtown, NRHP, 1982
- 2/2 Fargo Theater (314 Broadway), NRHP, 1982
- 2/3 Fossum Building (112-114 N. Roberts), NRHP, 1979
- 2/4 Gardner Hotel (18-26 N. Roberts), NRHP, 1983
- 2/5 Gethsemane Cathedral (204 9th St. S), NRHP, 1979
- 2/6 Graver Hotel/Equity Building (113-123 N. Roberts), NRHP, 1983
- 2/7 Heritage Society pamphlets, 1985
- 2/8 Historic Sites Inventory, 1979
- 2/9 Histories
- 2/10 Histories
- 2/11 Histories, Building Projects
- 2/12 Lewis Residence (1002 3rd Ave. S), NRHP, 1979
- 2/13 Knerr, Floyd Blocks; McHenry, Webster and Cole Buildings (8th St. So), NRHP, 1983
- 2/14 Masonic Block (384 8th St. S), NRHP, 1979
- 2/15 Newspaper Clippings (copied) 1920s
- 2/16 North Dakota State University (NDSU), notes
- 2/17 NDSU, NRHP, 1982
- 2/18 Northern Pacific Depot (701 Main), NRHP, 1974
- 2/19 Pense Building, notes, correspondence, September 17, 1990-December 10, 1993
- 2/20 Pense Building, NRHP, 1992
- 2/21 Street Maps, 1896, 1901, 1916
- 2/22 South Residential, notes
- 3/1 South Residential, NRHP, 1982
- 3/2 Photos (copied)

Grand Forks, N.D.

- 3/3 Survey Report, November 23, 1981
- 3/4 Abstracts
- 3/5 Biographies

- 3/6 Beare House (420 Reeves Drive), correspondence 1982, 1991-1995
- 3/7 Beare House, notes
- 3/8 Beare House, NRHP, North Dakota Cultural Resources Survey (NDCRS), 1994
- 3/9 B.P.O.E. Lodge/Golden Square (12 4th St. N), NDCRS, 1981
- 3/10 Campbell House (2405 Belmont Road), NRHP, 1987
- 3/11 Central Apartments/Odd Fellows Block (23-25 4th St. S), notes, NDCRS, 1981
- 3/12 City Hall (404 2nd Ave. N), notes, NDCRS, 1981
- 3/13 Clifford House (406 Reeves Drive), correspondence, 1986
- 3/14 Clifford House, NRHP, NDCRS, 1986
- 3/15 Clifford House, photos (copied)
- 3/16 Commercial Exchange/St. John's Block (2 3rd St. N), NDCRS, NRHP, 1981
- 3/17 Dakota Block (21 4th St. S), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 3/18 DeRemer House (625 Belmont), correspondence 1982-1983
- 3/19 DeRemer House, NDCRS, NRHP, 1983
- 3/20 DeRemer House, photos (Copied)
- 3/21 Dinnie Apartments (102-108 4th Ave. S), correspondence 1989-93
- 3/22 Dinnie Apartments, notes, photos (copied)
- 3/23 Dinnie Apartments, NDCRS, NRHP, 1992
- 3/24 Downtown NRHP, 1981
- 3/25 Contract, 1981
- 3/26 Correspondence, 1974-91
- 4/1 Maps
- 4/2 Econ-O-Wash (201 3rd St. S), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 4/3 Edgar Building (314 Kittson Ave.), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 4/4 Electric Construction (16 4th St. S), NDCRS, 1981
- 4/5 Finks and Gokey Block (414-420 DeMers Ave.), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 4/6 First National Bank (322 DeMers Ave.), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 4/7 Flatiron Building (323 Kittson Ave.), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 4/8 Grand Forks Herald (120-124 4th St. N), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 4/9 Great Northern Freight Depot (916 2nd Ave. N), correspondence 1988-1990, notes, magazine article
- 4/10 Great Northern Freight Depot, NRHP, NDCRS, 1989
- 4/11 Histories
- 4/12 Hook and Ladder (215 4th St. S), NDCRS, 1981
- 4/13 Idding Block (9 3rd St. N), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 4/14 Lander Building/Clifford Annex (401-411 DeMers Ave.), NDCRS, 1981
- 4/15 Lyons Garage (214-218 4th St. N), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 4/16 Masonic Temple (413-421 Bruce Ave.), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 4/17 MRN photos
- 4/18 New Hampshire Apartments (105 3rd St. N), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 4/19 Notes (including newspaper clippings)
- 4/20 Ordinance, Historical Preservation, 1983
- 4/21 Ordinance, street names, 1963
- 4/22 Photologs, rolls 1-23
- 4/23 Photologs, rolls 24-59

- 5/1 Pink Hanger (124 3rd St. N), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 5/2 Red River Valley Brick Company (215 3rd St. S), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 5/3 Reeves Drive brochure
- 5/4 Roller Office Supply (7 3rd St. N), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 5/5 Roosevelt School, notes
- 5/6 Security Trust Building (101 3rd St. N), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 5/7 Slide Show notes
- 5/8 Speed Printing (220 3rd St. S), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 5/9 St. Anne's Guest Home/St. Michael's Hospital (813 Lewis Blvd.), correspondence 1978-1994
- 5/10 St. Anne's Guest Home/St. Michael's Hospital, histories
- 5/11 St. Anne's Guest Home/St. Michael's Hospital, notes, photos (copied)
- 5/12 St. Anne's Guest Home/St. Michael's Hospital, NRHP, NDCRS, 1994
- 5/13 Statement of Scope and Methodology
- 5/14 State Mill, NRHP, notes, 1991
- 5/15 Stratford Building (311 DeMers Ave.), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 5/16 Street scenes
- 5/17 Telephone Company/Heritage Corner (24 4th St. N), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 5/18 312 Kittson Ave., NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 5/19 205 DeMers Ave., NDCRS, notes
- 5/20 United Lutheran Church (324 Chestnut St.), NRHP, 1990
- 5/21 Viets Hotel (309-311 3rd St. S), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 5/22 Washington School (422 6th St. N), correspondence 1990-92
- 5/23 Washington School, notes, photos (copied)
- 5/24 Washington School, NRHP, 1991
- 5/25 Woolen Mills (301 3rd St. N), NDCRS, notes, 1981
- 5/26 Wright/Neil's Block (408-412 DeMers Ave.), NDCRS, notes, 1981

Hillsboro, N.D.

- 5/27 Ellingson Farmstead, contract, 1984
- 5/28 Ellingson Farmstead, correspondence 1983-1984
- 5/29 Ellingson Farmstead, notes
- 5/30 Ellingson Farmstead, NRHP, 1984
- 5/31 Ellingson Farmstead, photos (copied)

Icelandic State Park, Cavalier, N.D.

- 5/32 Exhibit notes, text, 1989
- 5/33 Miscellaneous

Jamestown, N.D.

- 5/34 Elizabeth Apartments (402 2nd Ave. NW), notes, correspondence 1985-1986
- 5/35 Elizabeth Apartments, NRHP, 1986

Mandan, N.D.

- 5/36 Commercial District NRHP, 1983

5/37 Correspondence 1982-1985
5/38 Histories
6/1 Histories
6/2 Notes
6/3 Photos (copied)

Minot, N.D.

6/4 NRHP, 1986

Minto School, Minto, N.D.

6/5 Correspondence 1991-1992, notes
6/6 NRHP, 1991

Park River, N.D.

6/7 Correspondence 1990-1991
6/8 NDCRS, Notes

Pisek School, Pisek, N.D.

6/9 Correspondence 1991-1993, Notes
6/10 NRHP, 1992

Portland, N.D.

6/11 Lucken Farm, NRHP, 1983

St. Joseph's Chapel, Walsh County, N.D.

6/12 NRHP, 1992
6/13 Correspondence 1991-3, Notes

Valley City, N.D.

6/14 Brochures, Postcard
6/15 Database
6/16 Histories
6/17 Notes
6/18 Ordinances, Zoning, 1981
6/19 Photos (copied)

Wahpeton Hospital, Wahpeton, N.D.

6/20 Contract, Correspondence 1983
6/21 Notes
7/1 NRHP, 1983

Post Offices Series

7/2 Study, Phase I, 1986

7/3 Correspondence 1985-1989
7/4 Expenses
7/5 Notes, Miscellaneous
7/6 Permits, criteria, applications
7/7 Bismarck: Notes, NRHP
7/8 Carrington: Correspondence 1986-88, Notes, NDCRS, Questionnaire
7/9 Christine: NRHP, 1977
7/10 Devils Lake: NDCRS, NRHP, notes, questionnaire, 1986
7/11 Dickinson: Correspondence 1986, NDCRS, NRHP, postal survey, notes, questionnaire
7/12 Fargo: Correspondence 1987-1988, NDCRS, notes
7/13 Grafton: Correspondence 1989, NDCRS, notes, questionnaire
7/14 Grand Forks: NDCRS, NRHP, notes, 1981
7/15 Grassy Butte: NRHP, 1980
7/16 Hettinger: NDCRS, 1989; notes; questionnaire, 1988
7/17 Jamestown: Correspondence 1985-1988; NDCRS; NRHP, 1988; notes
7/18 Langdon: Correspondence 1986, NDCRS, NRHP, Postal Survey, notes, questionnaire
7/19 Lisbon: Correspondence 1986-88, NDCRS, postal survey, notes
7/20 Mandan: NRHP, notes, 1983
7/21 Minot: Correspondence 1979, NRHP, notes
8/1 New Rockford: Correspondence 1987, NDCRS, notes, mural artist
8/2 Oakes: NDCRS, notes, questionnaire, 1986
8/3 Pembina: Correspondence 1987-89, NDCRS, notes, questionnaire
8/4 Rugby: Correspondence 1987-89, NDCRS, Notes, Questionnaire
8/5 Valley City: Correspondence 1986, NDCRS, postal survey, notes, questionnaire
8/6 Wahpeton: Correspondence 1984-89, Contract, NDCRS, postal survey, notes
8/7 Williston: NRHP, 1979