

Call for papers

1862

The Making of the Great Plains

2012



March 28–30, 2012

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA–LINCOLN



The 38th Interdisciplinary Symposium sponsored by the Center for Great Plains Studies, University of Nebraska–Lincoln, in collaboration with Homestead National Monument of America, National Park Service.

The federal government acted in 1862 to implement its vision for the development of the Great Plains. Congress passed the **Homestead Act**, the **Morrill Act**, the **Pacific Railroad Act**, and the act establishing the **US Department of Agriculture**. The **Dakota Conflict**, which ended with the defeat and forcible removal of the Dakota, also inadvertently provoked more general hostilities with the Lakotas and Yanktonais. How did these acts and events drive regional development over the ensuing decades in some directions and foreclose it in others? How did they shape the culture, economy, environment, social customs, land use, demography, history, technology, literature, and politics of the Great Plains as well as the nation? How do they continue to have relevance today and in the future?

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: Sarah Carter, Myron Gutmann, Martin Jischke, William G. Thomas III, David Von Drehle, Elliott West, Richard White, Daniel Wildcat, David Wishart, and Donald Worster

We invite presentations on any topics exploring the influence of these acts and events on the Great Plains and beyond; eligible topics include but are not limited to:

- settlement patterns
- gender relations
- regional and national literature
- university research
- urban development
- Indian-white relations
- land tenure and land use
- economic development
- impact of railroads
- Native American culture
- agriculture and conservation
- art and culture
- natural resources
- attitudes, work habits, values
- politics

The Symposium Committee invites submissions of proposals for papers, panels, and posters focusing on the impact of these events on the subsequent historical development of the Great Plains and on its present and future. Please submit your proposal/abstract of 150–200 words with a brief résumé by **NOVEMBER 1, 2011**. SUBMIT ELECTRONICALLY at the website: **www.unl.edu/plains** using the [Abstract Submission Form](#).

PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS:

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