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STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS



Phantom and the Broomtail © by Paula Morin, Reno

BIENNIAL REPORT

2001-2002

Kenny C. Guinn  
*Governor*

Scott K. Sisco  
*Interim Director*

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ASSEMBLY WAYS AND MEANS

DATE: 2-6-03 ROOM: 3137 EXHIBIT D

SUBMITTED BY: Scott Sisco

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## Biennial Report 2001-2002

# NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Scott Sisco, Interim Director

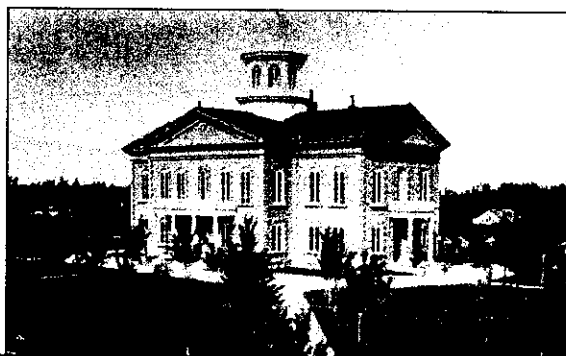
Nevada Arts Council  
State Office of Historic Preservation

Division of Museums and History  
Nevada State Library and Archives

### Mission

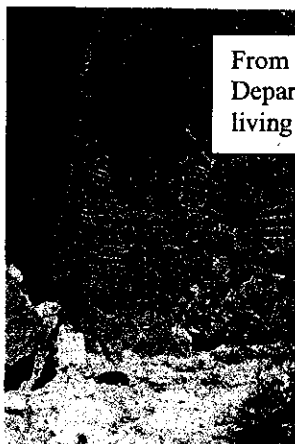
The Department of Cultural Affairs serves and enriches the lives of Nevada's citizens and visitors, recognizing the diversity of the state through leadership in cultural and information management, the promotion of cultural resources and activities, and education.

The Department of Cultural Affairs is the flagship of Nevada government, showing both citizens and visitors the best benefit of exercising their rights as citizens for the common good.



The Nevada State Capitol shortly after construction in 1871. The Department of Cultural Affairs is entrusted as the custodian for the story of Nevada's past and present.

The Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs is unique in state government. The Department serves basic human needs through direct, positive cultural experiences. People come to the Department to develop an appreciation for who they are, where they come from, and where they fit in the world.



From ancient native petroglyphs to today's news, the Department is the repository of Nevada's ancient and living history: its thoughts, words and ideas.

The Department serves as a major catalyst for the arts and culture, supporting many of our State's artists, art organizations, cultural facilities and educators, and increasing public awareness and access to the value of arts in Nevada.



Each time someone explores a facility of the Department's cultural or historic institutions, enjoys an event supported by the Department's grants programs or discovers a historic building that was saved with help from agency staff, the patron benefits from the efforts and resources of Nevada's Department of Cultural Affairs.

## Services and Goals

The Department of Cultural Affairs is one of the most diverse and visible branches of Nevada state government. Department staff and programs reach out to all geographic areas of the state and provide a unique array of services to citizens of all ages, ethnicities, and economic means.

The Department also embodies one of the best defenses against the economic impact of the spread of legalized gaming throughout the country and other tourism-depleting trends. When properly preserved and supported, Nevada's heritage and culture provide a unique, genuine experience in a dynamic and beautiful setting that visitors, citizens, and future generations alike will continue to cherish.

Grants awarded by the Department support local libraries, schools, artists and arts organizations, and the rehabilitation of historic buildings. As part of the efforts of its four Divisions, the Department sustains arts education programs, surveys the state for historic buildings and archaeological sites, conducts literacy training, assists local organizations with technical support services, maintains an automated database system for local libraries and operates seven museums across the State.

Nevada citizens and visitors study and experience our state's culture and history by visiting state museums, stopping at roadside historic markers, taking a ride on an antique locomotive or assessing the vast array of resources available from the State's premier information repository. Department conducts research into Nevada's natural heritage, ecosystem, and history in order to develop exhibits and educate visitors to our facilities. The Department's work is essential to the education and enlightenment of Nevada's future generations.

### Department Goals

- Refine and enhance the Department of Cultural Affairs' mission, structure, and identity, recognizing the strengths of the department's diversity, exploring opportunities for cooperation, and reassessing the mission and functional goals.
- Provide exhibits, programs, educational opportunities, and funding programs that meet customer/constituent needs and respond rapidly to the changing face of Nevada in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- Maintain, develop, and expand collections and associated services.
- Foster cultural awareness and diversity.
- Increase involvement with the formal education system and lifelong learning process.
- Strengthen intergovernmental relationships in the area of tourism and economic development.
- Encourage the professional development of staff and volunteers.
- Encourage the preservation, care and proper use of cultural resources throughout the state.
- Identify constituency needs while facilitating partnerships to increase support and improve success for meeting those needs.
- Ensure that all services are available and accessible to all citizens and communities.



CCC workers at the Lost City Museum in Overton. The heritage preserved by the Department of Cultural Affairs may ultimately be the most important legacy we leave our children.

The Department's programs, as well as those it supports through grants and technical assistance, are garnering national attention and helping to change the tourism base of Nevada. As over 92 million U.S. travelers are making cultural attractions part of their itinerary each year, spending more and staying longer than the average tourist, this Department is emerging as a major player in the state's future economic diversity and success.