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Accredited by the American Association of Museums May 3, 2001

Dr. Jeff Clark Dept. of History, Menard Hall 408B North Dakota State University Fargo, ND 58201

Dear Dr. Clark,

The upcoming Lewis & Clark Bicentennial is providing numerous opportunities for the State Historical Society that we would like to share with you. One of those opportunities centers around the *Era of Change* exhibit, a permanent installation in the Main Gallery at the North Dakota Heritage Center. The planning for this exhibit has been initiated and we are requesting your participation. We have the opportunity to bring together an advisory group to assist us in developing the direction and content of this exhibit.

The Era of Change exhibit includes the story of Lewis and Clark but covers the broader time period of the 1720s to the 1860s. As historians, tribal members, anthropologists, geographers, geologists, sociologists, and educators what do you consider to be five of the most important events that illustrate the changes that occurred during this time period? How do we present those changes, for the general public, utilizing archival, archeological, and artifact collections, oral traditions, art work, and technology.

We are excited about the possibilities and hope you can join us to share your knowledge, viewpoints, concerns and ideas on Thursday, May 24, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck. Resources are available to cover your mileage, per diem, and hotel expenses for those living a distance from Bismarck. Please return the enclosed RSVP card so we have an accurate count for the day's activities. If you have questions I would enjoy talking to you about this project.

Sincerely,

Claudia Berg

Director, Museum & Education Division

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