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The Durham Museum Contact:

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The Durham Museum Fact Page

- The Durham Museum is housed in historic Union Station in downtown Omaha, Nebr. Union Station was designed by Gilbert Stanley Underwood and built for Union Pacific Railroad in 1931 and is one of the best examples of art deco architecture in the country.
- Visitors enjoy permanent exhibits that capture the history of the region as well as a broad-range of traveling exhibits from across the country which cover subjects ranging from history and culture, to science and industry.
- In 1995 much needed renovations, including a new parking structure, infrastructure upgrades, and the complete restoration of the Main Waiting Room, were completed. In 1997, the museum added the “Durham” to its name in honor of the generosity of Charles and Margre Durham and became the Durham Western Heritage Museum.
- Since 1997, well over one million people have visited The Durham Museum. Smithsonian Affiliation was achieved in 2002, and the museum has close ties with the Library of Congress, the National Archives and Chicago’s Field Museum.
- The Durham Museum’s Photo Archives contain over 500,000 images with emphasis on seven collections. It documents the fascinating history of Omaha from its early days as a young frontier town to a unique and sophisticated city.
- The Durham Museum houses the Byron Reed Collection which contains coins, manuscripts, historic documents, rare books, maps and other items of great cultural importance from all over the world.
- In 2004, the 12,500 foot Velde Hall of American History was completed, providing a dedicated and environmentally-controlled environment for traveling exhibits.
- In 2007, the Main Waiting Room was renamed the Suzanne and Walter Scott Great Hall and the space including all the exhibits along the museum’s track level was renamed the Trish and Dick Davidson Gallery. In November 2007, the museum completed the 256-seat Stanley and Dorothy Truhlsen Lecture Hall, in the original 1899 boiler plant at the east end of the museum.
- In April 2008, the museum changed its name from the Durham Western Heritage Museum to The Durham Museum.

About The Durham Museum

The Durham Museum, making its home in Omaha’s beautiful art deco Union Station, is home to permanent exhibits that preserve Omaha’s vibrant history, traveling exhibits covering subjects ranging from history and culture, to science and industry, and many entertaining, educational, family-oriented activities. The Durham Museum is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and has strong ties with the Library of Congress, National Archives, and The Field Museum. Admission is free for members and children age 2 and under; \$8 for adults; \$6 for seniors; and \$5 for children 3-12. For information about The Durham Museum please visit the museum’s Web site at www.durhammuseum.org.