

04 Good Soil, Good Crops

INTERPRETIVE OBJECTIVES

Visitors will:

- begin to identify what made for good soil on the Freeman homestead.
 - discover the myths, misconceptions, and assumptions about soil and farming it.
 - realize that soil conditions were one of many things that could make or break the homesteader, not only on the plains but other areas of the country as well.
 - understand that crops were a requirement for a homesteader to prove up.
 - begin to recognize how vulnerable soils are to subtle changes in the environment
- Intangibles, universal concepts:* myths, misconceptions, assumptions, vulnerability, interdependence, change, vitality,

Theme: Success was found by those who could see the truth through the myths, misconceptions, and assumptions about soil and agricultural practices of the day.

POSSIBLE GRAPHICS

- *Historic Photograph*

Historic photographs of farmer plowing his field, of homesteaders cutting sod for a house revealing good soil below, of homesteaders bringing in the harvest. Historic dust bowl-era photographs.

MAPS

2D flat map

An inset map graphic shows the soil types found in different areas of the country.

COMMENTS

Quotes from Daniel Freeman about the conditions of the soil on his homestead. Quotes from other homesteaders on conditions affecting their soils; droughts, insects, etc. Quotes from Steven Long from Illustrated History of Nebraska.



South-Southwest

LOCATION

Farm Loop Trail

In the turn at the southern most point of the Farm Loop trail

VIEW

[with changes to specific location will this be O.K.?] Visitors will look across the prairie to the Daniel Freeman first home site.

Section 106 compliance.

Panel Size 36 x 24	Category Low Profile	Base Material Painted Aluminum	Ancillaries	Angle 45 degrees	
Panel Material Porcelain	Mount Socket	Color Medium Gray	Hardware Notes		