

J. Sterling Morton

Julius Sterling Morton was born on April 22, 1832 in Adams, New York. In 1854, he moved to Nebraska City while the region was still Nebraska Territory. He served in the territorial legislature and was appointed territorial secretary in 1858. He eventually became the acting governor for the territory. 1872 marked Morton's first Arbor Day celebration and it was made a national holiday in 1885, celebrated on Morton's birthday. In 1893, he moved to Washington, D.C. as Grover Cleveland's Secretary of Agriculture. He died on April 27, 1902 in Lake Forest, Illinois.

Primary Sources

<https://history.nebraska.gov/collections/j-sterling-morton-1832-1902-guide-microfilm-rg1013am>

Secondary Sources

J. Sterling Morton by James Olson

