



2026 KATP Information Packet

KANSAS ARCHEOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAM FIELD SCHOOL: Russell in Russell County, Kansas June 4-15, 2026

The 2026 Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school is sponsored by the Kansas Historical Society (KSHS) and the Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA).

Funding for the KATP field school comes from the Historic Preservation Fund, Kansas Anthropological Association, and the Kansas Historical Foundation's [KATP Support Fund](#).

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COMPONENTS

This year's KATP field school consists of four primary components:

1. Training in Archeological Principles,
2. Excavation of archeological sites,
3. Surveying, identifying, and recording archeological sites
4. Archeology laboratory work including photographing, sorting, cleaning, and cataloging artifacts,
5. Formal classes in Basic Laboratory Techniques and Archeological Site Survey and Mapping.

GOALS

1. To provide education in archeology through hands-on experience and formal classes on focused topics. Such intensive training allows quality scientific work to be accomplished at significant archeological sites.
2. To enable the investigation of sites where no other research funding exists. KATP participants provide a skilled and highly motivated workforce, allowing much-needed research on otherwise neglected sites.
3. To process material in the archeology laboratory with KATP participant's help because no additional funds are typically available for processing collected materials.
4. To add to the understanding of Kansas History and the people responsible for it.
5. To bring together individuals from Kansas and elsewhere who share a common interest in archeology. The camaraderie from the renewal of old friendships, the forging of new ones, and the dedication to a common purpose make field school an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

REQUIREMENTS

1. **Age Requirements:** Participants must be at least 12 years old. Those younger than 14 must always work with parents, guardians, or other sponsoring adults. Participants between 14 and 17 years of age must be accompanied on the project by a parent, guardian, or sponsor. A notarized sponsor form is required and must be completed by the minor's parents or guardian prior to the KATP. A copy of the form can be found on the final page of this document.

If any participant needs special accommodation, please notify the Kansas Historical Society at least two weeks before the start of field school so arrangements can be made. To request accommodations, contact Paige Bump: kshs.katp@ks.gov; 785-272-8681, ext. 267.

2. **Required Signed Documents:** All participants when registering, regardless of being a KAA member, KSHS member, or non-member, must sign the Legal Release, Attendance Agreement, and KAA Code of Ethics.

3. **Registration Fee:** All participants must pay a registration fee, which helps to cover field school expenses. The registration fee for members of the Kansas Historical Society and the Kansas Anthropological Association is \$35 for standard participants, \$25 for participants 65 or older, and \$15 for all students currently enrolled at a middle school, high school, or college. For non-member participants, the fee is \$90.

Membership in the Kansas Historical Society or the Kansas Anthropological Association is offered upon registration. Membership to either or both is not required.

****Registration fees will be refunded only if a cancellation request is received by May 29th****

4. **Responsibilities:** Participants are responsible for their transportation to the project, lodging, and food. Suggestions for places to stay and eat are on pages 17 through 18.

Parking will be available on-site; parking signs will be visible to direct participants. **However, participants are strongly encouraged to carpool whenever possible.**

Smoking is prohibited at the site.

5. **Check-In:** On their first day participants must check in at the project headquarters registration table at the old Ruppenthal Middle School building at 400 North Elm Street, Russell, KS 67665.

This table will be placed inside the building and **staffed daily between 7:30 and 8:00 am, so please arrive during that half an hour.**

6. **Classes:** Orientation and Principles of Archeology will be held at the old Ruppenthal Middle School building at 400 North Elm Street, Russell, KS 67665.

All new participants should expect their first morning, from 8 am to 11:30 am, to consist of the Orientation and Principles of Archeology classes.

7. **First-time participants:** Cannot work in the field until **June 5 but are welcome in the Lab on June 4**. There will be no principles or orientation class on June 14 and 15 therefore **no one new may start the project on these final days.**

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8. **Participation Commitment:** Program participation may range from 1 day to the entire 12-day period. However, commitment to four hours* in a single day, beginning at 8 am or 1 pm, is required.

***When planning participation in KATP know that Orientation and Principles, a requirement of all new participants, is four hours long.**

9. **Procedures and Protocols:** The training program is a serious scientific effort; procedures and protocols must always be followed*. **It is neither ethical nor permissible for participants to take artifacts from the site(s) being investigated during field school.** Also, participants are not allowed on the site, for any reason, from 5 pm to 7:45 am or after the KATP field school ends.

All participants sign and agree to these procedures and protocols during registration. These agreements are available on page 19 for review.

*If a violation of procedures and/or protocols occurs participants will be asked to leave.

10. **Schedule Requests:** Complete your schedule requests through online registration between March 15 and May 29. When completing registration please be aware that fluctuations in enrollment on any given day may necessitate assigning workers to an activity other than the first choice requested on the scheduling form.

11. **Change of Plans:** If a participant must leave the project before their scheduled departure time, they should notify Dr. Steven Keehner in the lab or their supervisor in the field (Dr. Nikki Klarmann, Paige Bump, Barbara Crable, Doug Kressly, Jackson Witt, or Wes Gibson) about the change of plans. Otherwise, the staff and volunteers will worry about the missing people.

If you are unable to attend on a day you signed up for, please notify us in advance, when possible, at paige.bump@ks.gov or at 785-580-7584.

12. **Records:** During the day, each participant MUST complete and submit certain required written records, which become part of the permanent site file. All accumulated records along with artifacts will be curated by the KSHS in Topeka for future research and museum use. Depending upon experience and previous training, individuals also may be involved in other activities, such as mapping, recording features, and making profile drawings.

13. **Discrimination and Accommodation:** The KSHS and the KAA do not discriminate based on disability in the admission to, access to, or operation of the program. **The KSHS requests prior notification to accommodate individuals with a disability.** Contact Paige Bump at kshs.katp@ks.gov or 785-272-8681, ext. 267 at least two weeks prior to field school to arrange any accommodations needed. *

**Please note: The field sites this year are remote. The ground surface/terrain will often be uneven and work areas will be located some distance from parking areas. Although some field sites will have off road vehicles available for transport between parking and work areas, they may not always be able to be used depending on ground conditions.*

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SITE BACKGROUND

The 2026 Kansas Archeology Training Program field school will be hosted in Russell, Kansas. This year, there will be the opportunity to work on materials and sites from a variety of time periods. There are six areas within 10,000 acres identified as top priorities for field school. These identified areas include a petroglyph carving, a possible tipi ring site, a historic farmstead, a two-story stone structure, and a site related to World War II Air Force history. Most of these sites have not been previously documented or researched. There is also the possibility, through survey work, of discovering additional sites.

Additional site background information will be provided at Orientation on the first day.

STAFF AND THEIR ROLES

KSHS Staff:

Dr. Nikki Klarmann, State Archeologist: Oversees the KATP field school and everyone involved in it to ensure that field and laboratory procedures are being followed correctly and that the archeological site is being protected. Helping teach Principles and Orientation.

Paige Bump, Project and Outreach Coordinator/Site Supervisor: Assists in supervising the field work and organizing the field school.

Dr. Steven Keehner, Archeology Lab Director: Supervises the lab and teaches the Basic Laboratory Techniques class.

Barb Crable and Jackson Witt, Contract Archeologists: Train new participants and manage survey and excavation areas.

Doug Kressly, SHPO Archeologist: Train new participants and manage survey and excavation areas.

Volunteers:

Wesley Gibson: KAA Second Vice President (2024-2026) Leads group focused on survey and metal detection work along with teaching Archeological Site Survey and Mapping class with Tim Weston.

Tim Weston: KAA President, Helping teach Archeological Site Survey and Mapping class with Wesley Gibson.

Virginia Wulfkuhle: KAA Editor, Helping teach Principles and Orientation.

Other KAA Members will serve in Mentor roles for the field and lab to assist participants. These individuals can be identified by the orange ribbons on their nametags.

FIELD AND LAB WORK INFORMATION

General Information

- Participants are encouraged to work in the lab and the field.
- **Achieving lab goals is as important as achieving field goals.**
 - People with lab experience make better excavators
- Work will run from 8 am to 5 pm with an hour lunch break from 12 pm to 1 pm.
- A required break will be taken during the morning and afternoon shifts, but always take breaks whenever needed.
- If there are any questions during the field school, ask the staff identified on the previous page.
- A manual for the field and lab will be provided to help guide participants in each role.
- Tours of the field work sites will be offered to the public on June 10th and the 13th.

Fieldwork

- Be prepared to be outside for field work. Recommended equipment is listed on page 11.

Location: The exact location will be provided at Orientation on your first day.

Operation: 8 am to 5 pm daily, with lunch from 12 pm to 1 pm.

- June 4: Field work will begin after Orientation for returning participants; new participants cannot be in the field on this day. Lab work will begin after Orientation for returning participants and after Orientation and Principles for new participants.
- June 5: First day new participants are allowed in the field.
- June 14: Will begin to close out units, no new participants will be allowed to start.
- June 15: Site clean-up will begin, including backfilling units, no new participants will be allowed to start. All units closed and backfilled by end of day.

Stations:

- Survey
 - Conduct shovel test pits or pedestrian surveys to learn more about the site following SHPO guidelines, which are listed here:
([https://www.kansashistory.gov/preserve/archeology/pdfs/shpo_guide_updated\(1\).pdf](https://www.kansashistory.gov/preserve/archeology/pdfs/shpo_guide_updated(1).pdf))
 - Shovel Test pits:
 - Small holes that are dug according to the SHPO guidelines.
 - Screening excavated soil for artifacts.
 - Recording information about the soil, vegetation present, artifacts recovered, and any noticeable changes.
 - Pedestrian Survey:
 - Walking over the land, looking for surface artifacts.
 - Follow the SHPO guidelines regarding pedestrian surveying.
 - Flagging any artifacts found.
- Mapping
 - Record material and information on a map, including but not limited to:
 - Site Boundaries,
 - Vegetation,
 - Artifacts,
 - Features or structures,
 - Unit locations.
- Photography
 - Take pictures as designated by the Principal Investigator or Site Supervisor of units or any additional requested images.
 - Take images of participants.
 - Record photographs taken in a log.

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- Excavation
 - Excavate in designated arbitrary levels, typically 10 cm at a time
 - Record information on required forms and bags, including:
 - Artifacts found,
 - Features found,
 - Unit information.
 - Map and record piece plots on field forms, which record the exact location of recovered material when required.
- Screening
 - All dirt removed during the field process will be screened through ¼” screens.
 - The goal is to sort through all removed dirt to look for any missed artifacts during the excavation or survey process.
 - Record and collect material recovered.
- Record Keeping
 - Distribute all required forms and bags.
 - Receive all finished forms and bags.
- Metal Detecting
 - Conducted in predetermined areas.
 - Flag materials that are found when metal detecting.
 - Follow metal detection guidelines provided to them.

Archeology Lab

- The lab is an excellent way for beginners to get hands-on experience with varying artifacts recovered during an archeological excavation.
- Parents or other sponsors should keep in mind that the number of laboratory tasks suitable for young children is limited; therefore, the number of children who can participate in the lab at any one time may be restricted.
- It is important throughout the lab process that the associated record information stays with the recovered materials.

Location: Old Ruppenthal Middle School building at 400 North Elm Street, Russell, KS 67665.

Operation: 8 am to 5 pm daily, with lunch from 12 pm to 1 pm.

- June 4: Lab work will begin after Orientation and Principles; any new participants will be in the lab.
- June 14: Cease washing new artifacts, other cleaning and cataloging will continue.
- June 15: Morning: 8 to 12 pm: Finish any cataloging that needs to be done; 1 to 5 pm: **CLEANING UP AND PACKING.** Participants are needed to help clean the lab and load materials.

Stations:

- Photography
 - Taking working photos of material on trays.
 - This allows for the possibility of reassociating material to proveniences in cases when the material gets lost from its original origin/association.
 - Taking any additional requested images.
- Sorting
 - After the artifacts are cleaned, they need to be sorted into categories.
 - Examples include nails, ceramics, glass, plastic, bricks, etc.
- Cleaning
 - Cleaning the artifacts recovered during excavation
 - Based on the material of the artifacts, different cleaning methods are used.
- Cataloging

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- Research each artifact to determine/identify what it is.
- Record all associated information about the artifact in a catalog form.
- Place the artifact and all associated information together in a bag.

CLASSES AND PROGRAMS OFFERED

Required Classes:

These required classes are taken together and are offered daily, except June 14 and 15, from **8 am to 12 pm**. These classes are taught at the Old Ruppenthal Middle School building at 400 North Elm Street, Russell, KS 67665.

Principles of Archeology: This class covers what archeology is, including important terms to know, why we do archeology, different types of archeological projects and sites, Kansas Cultural Periods and History, what happens before, during, and after excavations, and the tools and forms used.

NEW participants are required to take Principles of Archeology.

Orientation: This class provides information on logistics for the 2026 KATP field school. This includes the site-specific history and background information, research questions, excavation locations, specific field and lab protocols, check-in information, classes offered, staff overview, policies, schedule information, work assignments, site location, evening programs, project summary information, information on the KAA, evaluation forms, and safety precautions.

ALL participants are required to take orientation.

Optional Classes:

A minimum of five students is required to justify the time and expense of conducting the class. These classes are open to all KATP participants. **There is no extra charge for the classes. All students must attend orientation and principles classes in the days prior to taking these classes.** Do not enroll in a class unless you can attend all sessions.

Basic Laboratory Techniques:

Dates: June 8th and 9th

Time: 8 am to 5 pm each day

Location: Old Ruppenthal Middle School building at 400 North Elm Street, Russell, KS 67665

Instructor: Dr. Steven Keehner

Description: This class will combine lecture and hands-on experience to teach the basic procedures for processing archeological specimens. Cleaning and sorting artifacts, preserving fragile materials, labeling specimens, preparing a descriptive catalog, and determining proper collections storage and maintenance will be covered. This class fulfills one requirement for the Advanced Archeological Laboratory Technician category of the KAA Certification Program. Class size is limited to 15.

National Register Team Class:

Dates: June 10th

Time: 8 am to 5 pm

Location: Old Ruppenthal Middle School building at 400 North Elm Street, Russell, KS 67665

Instructor: Kansas Historical Society National Register Team

Description: This class will combine lecture and hands-on experience to teach the basic procedures for assessing sites eligibility for the State and National Register.

Archeological Site Survey and Mapping:

Dates: June 11th and 12th

Time: 8 am to 5 pm each day

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Location: Old Ruppenthal Middle School building at 400 North Elm Street, Russell, KS 67665

Instructor: Wesley Gibson and Dr. Tim Weston

Description: The class is comprised of both preliminary classroom work and field work. Classroom work includes an introduction to reading and understanding topographic quadrangle maps, a discussion of high and low-probability areas on a landscape, and an in-depth discussion on completing a Kansas Archeological Site Record. During the classroom time we will also review several digital tools that can help you with your site recordation efforts which include both resources that can be used on desktop computers and mobile devices. Skills learned in the classroom will assist you when conducting pedestrian and shovel testing surveys and site recordation in the field. Site recordation includes determining the site's location in space, describing the site and any associated features and artifacts, and photographing the site and features. The goal of the class is to prepare students to conduct safe and ethical surveys and high-quality site records for submission to the Kansas Historical Society. This class fulfills one requirement for the Basic Archeological Crew Member category of the KAA Certification Program.

Evening Programs and Project Summary:

Various informal educational presentations and social gatherings take place after field school hours. A **preliminary** calendar will be posted on the Kansas Anthropological Association's Facebook before field school. Revised schedules with specific times and locations will be displayed at the check-in area for participants. Additionally, the field school staff will have copies of the evening program schedules for participants. Announcements of evening programs will be made each morning as well. Once the evening program schedule is finalized, it will be emailed to registrants. **Evening programs are free and open to the public.** We encourage residents of the surrounding community to attend. Please encourage local people to come to hear the project results at the free **Project Summary on Saturday June 13th**. **Details will be sent to participants once confirmed.**

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The KAA conducts a certification program for KAA members in the basic skills and techniques of archeology. To learn more about this program, visit www.katp.org/training.html.

Being enrolled in the certification program and/or completing specific categories does not certify you as a professional archeologist or provide any credentials for conducting archeology. The program is for personal enrichment and learning. Professional archeologists meet the Secretary of the Interior Standards (<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservation/upload/standards-guidelines-archeology-historic-preservation.pdf>).

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

Please label all personal equipment. There will be many people there with similar equipment. Labeling helps everyone keep track of things.

Highly Recommended Equipment:

Each participant should provide the following supplies for themselves. **Label all your personal items.**

1. **Sun protection:** Head covering or hat with brim, sunglasses, and sunscreen.
2. **Bug spray:** Some areas may have tall grass. Pretreating your clothes with permethrin can add protection from bugs. This should be done well in advance as this can cause skin irritation if not properly applied.
3. **Shoes:** Comfortable and supportive hiking boots or shoes and wet weather footwear. Close-toed shoes are required in the field.
4. **Clothing (be prepared for any weather):** Waterproof jacket or poncho, long pants, and various outdoor clothing that can get dirty. Other suggestions include quick-drying clothing, U-V-safe clothing, and wool socks.
5. **Something to sit on:** Like a camping chair or blanket to relax or sit on when eating lunch or during breaks.
6. **Toolbox, backpack, or other carrying bag:** To store personal items.
7. **Writing Materials:** Pencil with a good eraser and a Permanent black ink felt-tip pen ("Sharpie"). There will be some extras on site.
8. **Work/Gardening gloves:** To help protect your hands when screening and digging.
9. **Lunch and snacks:** The lunch break is one hour long, which limits the time to get food due to the semi-remote location of the site.
10. **Water Bottle:** Please bring your own water bottle. There will be small paper cone cups and water provided, but having a water bottle you can bring with you is ideal. This will help prevent dehydration.

Provided Materials:

1. **Shovels:** A variety of types are provided for varying excavation purposes.
2. **Screens:** ¼ inch screens for excavation.
3. **Forms:** All required excavation or lab forms.
4. **Cleaning Tools:** Various tools will be provided in the lab to assist with cleaning artifacts.
5. **Bags/Sacks:** For artifacts recovered.
6. **Drinking Water and Cups for Water:** It is recommended that you bring a refillable water bottle.
7. **Pop-Up canopies:** Shade provided during breaks and lunch, along with covering excavation areas.
8. **Basic First Aid Kits**

Optional Materials to Bring: *

1. **Personal Notebook:** To record personal notes throughout field school.
2. **An 8.5 by 11-inch clipboard:** For filling out forms. Limited clipboards will be available on-site.
3. **A small, forged trowel:** A 5-inch (no larger than 6-inch) pointing trowel with a triangular blade or a 2-inch-wide margin trowel with a rectangular blade. Limited number of trowels are available to borrow. Avoid trowels with riveted or welded shanks. Marshalltown and Goldblatt are good brands. **Please, no gardening trowels.**

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When purchased, trowels are dull. For cutting through Kansas soil, a well-prepared and sharpened trowel is indispensable. Each participant is responsible for sharpening his/her trowel before arriving on site and keeping it sharp. Although files will be available, the participant may wish to purchase a small mill bastard file for personal use. When sharpening a trowel, wear a protective eye cover.

Sharpening will take some time with a file. Initial sharpening is recommended to be done on a bench grinder. Once the blade is established, occasional light sharpening with a file will keep it sharp. A sharpened trowel should be treated with the same precaution as a knife. [Click here](#) to watch an instructional video about proper trowel sharpening.

4. **Knee pads or kneeling pads:** You may be working on your knees for an extended time while excavating, and these may help make it more comfortable. There are several commercial types made for garden work available.
5. **2-inch-wide paintbrush:** To softly remove dirt from artifacts.
6. **Whiskbroom with a Dustpan:** To help remove dirt from the excavation units.
7. **Bamboo pick:** To assist in excavation and cleaning dirt from artifacts.
8. **Small line level (3 inches long):** To aid in setting up the excavation unit and creating a level string for measuring.
9. **A retractable tape measure:** Marked in centimeters, with a minimum length of 3 meters.
10. **Camera:** Participants are encouraged to keep a personal record of their time at KATP. Sharing digital images with KSHS is welcomed if they are at a resolution of at least 300 dpi, personal pictures are edited out, and those remaining are on a flash drive, with a log that identifies the subject of each frame.

Email Paige Bump, kshs.katp@ks.gov, to help transfer these photographs after the project.

**KSHS and KAA will have a limited number of these items on site, which are available on a first come first served basis for use each day.*

POTENTIAL RISKS

Overview:

Please be aware that archeological work often has potential risks by working outdoors and in the elements.

1. Skin Injuries: Scratches, lacerations, punctures, or blisters
2. Bugs: Mosquito bites, bee or fly stings, ticks, chigger bites, or spiders
3. Snakes
4. Sunburn
5. Dehydration
6. Heat Exhaustion or Stroke
7. Poison Ivy
8. Limb injuries: Strains or breaks

Heat Exhaustion and Heat Stroke: Most commonly occurs with overexposure to the sun and humidity. **If you believe you are suffering heat exhaustion or heat stroke, please notify staff immediately, find shade, and request medical attention.**

Heat Exhaustion results from dehydration and an electrolyte imbalance and most commonly occurs in people not used to working outdoors.

Characteristics/Symptoms:

- Excessive Sweating
- Pale and Clammy Skin
- Feeling sick or dizzy
- Fainting
- Rapid pulse and breathing
- Muscle cramps
- Headaches

Treatments:

- Lay down with slightly elevated feet in a cool place
- Drink water with salt, one teaspoon of salt per quart of water

Heat Stroke results from overexposure to the sun and failure to regulate body temperature.

Characteristics/Symptoms:

- Flushed skin
- Hot and dry to the touch
- Strong rapid pulse
- Confusion
- Unconsciousness

Treatment:

- Move to a cool place
- Seek medical attention
- Treat for shock

Prevention of Heat Exhaustion or Stroke:

- Wear sunscreen with an SPF of 30+
- Apply sunscreen every couple of hours
- Bring and drink water, and replenish electrolytes
- Wear light-colored clothing
- Wear sunglasses

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Ticks: In Kansas, ticks are common, especially in long grass or near trees. Ticks can carry Lyme disease, but infection often takes 24 hours. To prevent contracting Lyme disease, participants should thoroughly check themselves for ticks embedded in their skin each day after field work.

Treatment:

- If embedded, remove the tick and make sure the head is still attached, a tick key is a useful tool for easy removal
- Wash the affected area
- Monitor the tick bite after removal

To prevent ticks:

- Use DEET-based insect repellent
- Treat clothes with Permethrin.
- Wear light-colored clothing to easily spot them
- Check clothes and body after fieldwork
- Tuck long pants into your socks

MAP OF HEADQUARTERS LOCATION



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PROJECT AREA ACCOMMODATIONS

The KSHS and KAA do not endorse any business or omit any business intentionally.

Food:

A&W Restaurant:

300 S Fossil St, Russell, KS 67665
Open 10:30 am to 9 pm

Waudby's Sports Bar & Grill:

719 N Main Street, Russell, KS 67665
See Facebook for hours they are open

San Juan Mexican Restaurant

740 E Wichita Ave, Russell, KS 67665
Open 11 am to 9 pm

Meridy's Restaurant and Lounge

1220 S Fossil St, Russell, KS 67665
Open 6 am to 10 pm Monday through Saturday, open 7 am to 10 pm on Sunday

Pizza Hut

1315 S Front St, Russell, KS 67665
Open 10:30 am to 10 pm

Peking Garden

407 S Fossil St, Russell, KS 67665
Open Monday through Saturday 11 am to 2 pm and 5 pm to 8:30 pm

The Social Tavern

2111 Catharine Rd., Catharine, KS 67627
Open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 4 pm to 9 pm

Grocery Stores:

Dollar General

1105 N Fossil St, Russell, KS 67665

Klema Apple Market

51 S Fossil St, Russell, KS 67665

Dillons

1902 Vine St, Hays, KS 67601 or
515 W 27th St, Hays, KS 67601

Walmart Supercenter

4301 Vine St, Hays, KS 67601

Hotels, Motels, and Inns:

Fossil Creek Hotel & Suites I-70

1430 S Fossil St, Russell, KS 67665

The Lodge at Russell

901 South Fossil Street, Russell, KS 67665

Days Inn by Wyndham

1225 S Fossil St, Russell, KS 67665

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Quality Inn

1405 S Fossil St, Russell, KS 67665

Midland Railroad Hotel

414 26th St, Wilson, KS 67490

Campground and RV Parks:

Triple-J Camper Park

187 E Edward Ave, Russell, KS 67665

Also have rental cabins and tent sites available.

Fossil Creek RV Park

833 S Front St, Russell, KS 67665

Minooka Park Recreation Area

About 30 miles away.

I-70 E, Bunker Hill, KS 67626

Wilson State Park

About 36 miles away.

3 Wilson State Park Rd, Sylvan Grove, KS 67481

Laundry:

8th Street Laundry Services LLC

225 E 8th St, Hays, KS 67601

27th and Hall Street Laundromat

507 W 27th St, Hays, KS 67601

Emergency Services:

Russell Regional Hospital and Emergency Room

(785) 483-3131

200 S Main St, Russell, KS 67665

Russell County EMS

(785) 445-3720

Lucas St, Russell, KS 67665

Russell County Fire District

(785) 483-5100 - *non-emergency line*

850 N Elm St, Russell, KS 67665

Russell Police Department

(785) 483-2121

339 E 8th St, Russell, KS 67665

KSHS Staff Number:

(785) 580-7584**

Direct all calls to this number from **June 2nd to June 16th from 8 am to 5 pm.**

Voicemail messages received will be returned as quickly as possible.

****This is not an emergency number; participants are responsible for providing family and friends with contact information for themselves during field school.**

SUGGESTIONS FOR RAINY DAYS

Russell, Kansas:

See a movie at the Dream Theater

629 N. Main Russell, KS 67665

Visit the Russell County Historical Society

825 N Kansas Russell, KS 67665

Relive the History at Russell's Ag, Academic, & Auto Museum & visit Fossil Station. Tour two 1870 homes and the Oil Patch Museum.

Visit the Fossil Station Museum and Genealogy Society

331 Kansas St. Russell, KS 67665

Fossil Station Museum & Genealogy Society is found along the Post Rock Scenic Byway. Over the Smoky Hills of weathered bedrock, the Post Rock Scenic Byway winds through fields, pastures, and prairie. The landscape's unique beauty and challenges required pioneers to earn their space here. And the legacy of their creativity and resourcefulness lives on. Just look at the stone fence posts for which this route was named - as functional as the day they were erected. Today, that same innovative spirit has given rise to many independently minded artists, farmers, and ranchers in the region.

Hays, Kansas:

Visit Fort Hays State Historic Site

1472 Hwy 183 Alt Hays, KS 67601

Established in 1867 to protect the construction workers who were building the Union Pacific Railroad. The original blockhouse, guardhouse, and officers' quarters remain along with exhibits interpreting pioneer and military history. A modern visitor center helps interpret the significance of the fort and the grounds contain extensive interpretive signage which provides an overview of the fort and its history.

Visit the Sternberg Museum of Natural History

3000 Sternberg Dr Hays, KS 67601

Sternberg Museum of Natural History displays live animals, fossils of 80 million year old sea-monsters, & interactive exhibits.

Visit the Ellis County Historical Society

100 W 7th Hays, KS 67601

The main gallery experience includes a beautiful textile sculpture, "Buffalo in Denim" created by renowned limestone artist, Pete Felten. You'll also find 3 outbuildings are available to tour (Younger Harness Shop, Firehouse Museum, Volga German Haus). As well as an amazing collection of antique firearms, once housed on the FHSU campus, is currently on display in the special gallery located inside the attached limestone church building (1879). The collection displays over 180 pieces of antique weapons, almost all collected by George Sternberg for the original Sternberg Museum, and most of which had not been on display for 20 years.

Visit Boot Hill Cemetery

18th and Fort Hays, KS 67601

On the northeast corner of Fort and 18th stands a statue by Pete Felten known as "The Homesteader." The statue commemorates the first cemetery of Hays City, believed to have been the first in Kansas, if not the entire United States, known by the title Boot Hill. Surprisingly enough, considering the reputation of early Hays City as a wild and wicked town, the first few deaths resulted from natural or accidental causes. The first recorded death on 11-5-1867 was due to an accident where a resident was kicked in the head by a mule, followed by fever and an unknown fatal ailment. The succeeding recordings of interments on Boot Hill were from man-made violence such as racial strife, alcoholism, mob violence, suicides and shootouts. The last burial on Boot Hill was on November 9, 1874.

Visit Forsyth Library and Special Collections Display

600 Park St, Fort Hays State University, RM 122, Forsyth Library Hays, KS 67601

The library on the campus of Fort Hays State University features three floors of books, magazines, periodicals, research materials, audio books, government forms, newspapers, microforms, newspapers, historical documents and reference materials. The library also has several unique displays that visitors can learn about the German Heritage of Ellis County through The Center for Ethnic Studies and the Catherine Model Buildings display. Lawrence Weigel, a noted local folklorist, donated a substantial portion of his personal collection of materials on the Volga Germans to The Center for Ethnic Studies. When combined with the variety of publications from the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, this collection provides a rich source for research and educational materials for visitors to browse through. There are also a variety of pertinent reference works, bibliographies, pamphlets, journals, newspapers and dissertations published in the United States and abroad. General histories, church histories, parish registers, family histories, diaries and genealogies, obituaries, works on folklore, folk music and art make up the core of the collection. In addition, the collection contains numerous maps, photographs of bridal couples, individuals and groups. Several video documentaries and recordings of folk music and interviews are also available.

Visit Moss/Thorns Gallery of Art

600 Park St, Rarick Hall, Fort Hays State University Campus Hays, KS 67601

Connected to the Center for Art & Design, the Moss-Thorns Gallery is home to various student art exhibits, faculty shows and traveling exhibits throughout the year. During the fall and spring, the gallery is open Monday - Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Visit Hays Art Center

112 E 11th Hays, KS 67601

The Center is the home of the Hays Arts Council, Kansas' first such organization. The gallery features many new exhibits throughout the year, including the Five State Photography Exhibition which is held during December in conjunction with the Winter Gallery Walk. The last Friday of April marks the opening of the Smoky Hill Art Exhibition and the annual Spring Gallery Walk. The Smoky Hill Art Exhibition is the state's longest running juried, fine art competition. It's open to all artists presently living in Kansas. Each year a new juror is selected to judge hundreds of submissions to determine the artwork featured in the final exhibition. The Fall Gallery Walk is held the last Friday in August. Locations that typically participate in the gallery walks vary from

ten to as high as 20 or more. The annual gallery walks are free to attend, open to the public and provide a great way for residents and visitors of all ages and interests to participate and enjoy the arts. A gift shop features art from local and regional artists and other items available to purchase. Free Admission

Lucas, Kansas:

Visit the Garden of Eden

305 E 2nd St Lucas, KS 67648

Kansas' only Visionary Sculpture Environment and stone log cabin. Internationally known as a prime example of the Grassroots Art genre. Civil War Veteran Samuel Perry Dinsmoor created his visionary sculptures and Cabin Home in Lucas between the years of 1907 and 1932 using concrete and native post rock. Tour this piece of Kansas history, which is a monument to individualism.

Visit the World's Largest Collection of the World's Smallest Versions of the World's Largest Things

214 S. Main Lucas, KS 67648

An interactive exposition devoted to roadside attractions, the Roadside Sideshow Expo in downtown Lucas features artist-built mini-monuments in the tongue-twisting World's Largest Collection of the World's Smallest Versions of the World's Largest Things. This one-of-a-kind roadside sideshow expo pairs images and histories of kitschy, iconic attractions with cultural context displays, alongside the ever-expanding number of miniature marvels.

Visit Grassroots Art Center

213 S Main St Lucas, KS 67648

Exhibits from across the state of Kansas. Visitors enjoy the creativity of primarily retired individuals working with recycled materials such as metal, wood, pull-tabs, limestone, cement, computer motherboards and even chewing gum. The Art Center has also developed the Great Post Rock Limestone Courtyard Exhibit. This outdoor area emphasizes the architectural, historical and cultural value of post rock limestone and incorporates at one place a concise and concentrated series of examples of construction and design detail, showing the many uses of the stone from the most utilitarian to the ornate and whimsical. Located in downtown Lucas.

LEGAL AGREEMENTS

Below are copies of the legal agreements that must be signed to register for the 2026 KATP field school.

KSHS Attendance Agreement:

Individually and on behalf of any children or sponsored minors attending the 2026 Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school with me, I hereby pledge and agree:

To respect the rights of other participants, keep the excavation area clean, and avoid disturbing other participants. To abide by the rules and codes of conduct of the KATP field school, to obey the instructions of the professional staff and other project officials, and to perform such archeological work assigned to me/us by project officials. To care for and turn in all equipment, records, and supplies that do not belong to me/us; to collect and excavate archeological materials only when and where instructed by project officials; to keep records on all archeological work; and to turn in all collected artifacts at the end of each day. To abide by the terms and conditions of all Kansas laws applicable to archeology and historic preservation.

I understand that excessively rude behavior, intoxication, and sexual harassment will not be tolerated at KATP-sponsored activities. KSHS staff reserves the right to ask people exhibiting behavior of this type to leave the field school.

KSHS Legal Release:

I hereby release the Kansas Historical Society, the Kansas Anthropological Association, and the property owners from any and all liability for the safety and well-being of me or members of my family while attending the 2026 Kansas Archeology Training Program field school. I/We will respect the rights and property of landowners and will not damage or destroy public or private property.

I approve the use by the Kansas Historical Society and the Kansas Anthropological Association of any photographs or video taken of me or members of my family by the official photographers during KATP activities for use in publications or publicity and promotional projects.

KAA Code of Ethics:

As an organization, the Association recognizes that the archeological record is irreplaceable and it is the responsibility of all archeologists and members of the public to work together for long term conservation and protection of the archeological record. It is also the goal of the Association to promote responsible stewardship of all archeological resources. In light of these endeavors, the Association has established the following Code of Ethics.

1. Members who are not professional archeologists should not do archeological excavation without the direct supervision of a professional archeologist. A professional archeologist is defined as someone who has at least a master's degree in anthropology or related field and a year of supervisory experience. Completion of Kansas Archeology Training Program field schools or KAA Certification Program requirements does not qualify an individual as a professional archeologist.

2. Looking for archeological sites (archeological survey, including walkovers, shovel testing, and metal detecting) can be conducted without the supervision of a professional archeologist. Members undertaking archeological surveys must have prior verbal or written permission from the owner of the property. If members will be doing ground disturbance, such as ground truthing or shovel testing, as part of a survey

2026 Kansas Archeology Training Program Information Packet

at known sites, they should notify a professional archeologist. The professional archeologist will review the project to ensure that known sites are not damaged. When conducting ground-disturbing archeological survey, members must limit shovel tests and metal detection ground truthing to holes not more than 30 cm (1 ft) in diameter and 45 cm (1.5 ft) deep. When working on archeological sites, members should keep field notes of their surveys, including sketch maps to record the locations of where they find archeological materials. If an area is not a site (less than 50 years old or a historic artifact scatter with no features), then they do not need to report it or keep field notes unless a site is discovered. It is against the law to survey on government property without a permit and supervision of a professional archeologist.

3. A member who knows the location of an archeological site should record the site through the Kansas Historical Society Archeological Inventory or report it to an archeologist on staff at the Kansas Historical Society who will help him/her record site location and site information. If a member discovers human remains, Kansas law requires that the discovery be reported to local law enforcement.

4. Members shall not buy, sell, or trade archeological materials because this encourages the destruction of archeological sites.

5. Written exceptions can be made to these codes by Kansas Historical Society archeologists on a case-by-case basis.

6. Failure to comply with any of these rules may result in cancellation of membership and exclusion from Association-sponsored events upon formal review of any alleged incident(s) by the Executive Committee. An individual whose membership has been canceled may request reinstatement after a period of one year. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Executive Committee shall be necessary for reinstatement.

Sponsor Agreement and Medical Release
KANSAS ARCHEOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAM
FIELD SCHOOL

This form is required for persons under 18 years of age, unaccompanied by a parent or legal guardian. It must be completed, notarized, and included with the registration form.

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN:

I, _____, parent or guardian of
_____, a minor, hereby release said minor while he/she is attending the Kansas Archeology Training Program field school. I hereby appoint _____ as the adult sponsor for this minor. The sponsor has agreed to assume this responsibility. In the event of an emergency, the sponsor named here has my permission to obtain medical treatment for said minor at the nearest hospital or doctor's office, at my expense, if our own doctor is not readily available.

Subscribed and sworn before me this ____ day of _____, _____.

Signature of parent or guardian

Notary Public in and for the State of _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SPONSOR:

I, _____ have been appointed adult sponsor of _____, a minor, by his/her parent or guardian, _____. I hereby agree to this appointment and further agree to assume the responsibility of said minor at the Kansas Archeology Training Program field school.

Subscribed and sworn before me this ____ day of _____, _____.

Signature of sponsor

Notary Public in and for the State of _____