

Kansas Preservation

Volume 33, Number 2

REAL PLACES. REAL STORIES.



New National Historic Landmarks

See story on page 9.



Kansas
Historical Society



Newsletter of the Cultural
Resources Division
Kansas Historical Society

Volume 33, Number 2

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Governor Sam Brownback

Jennie Chinn, State Historic Preservation Officer

Patrick Zollner, Deputy SHPO, Editor

Linda Kunkle Park, Graphic Designer

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ON THE COVER: Eisenhower Veteran's Administration, Leavenworth, was among new National Historic Landmarks that were recently announced, Building 19, pictured. Inset: The chapel is another building in the complex.

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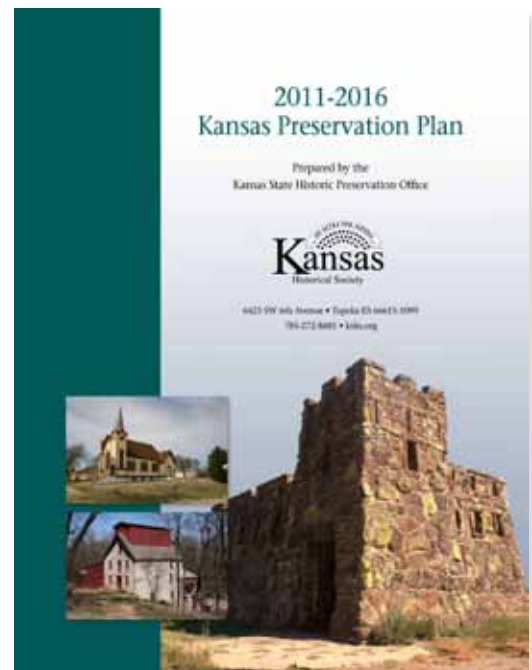
State Plan Approved

The Kansas Historical Society released a five-year statewide historic preservation plan in June. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is responsible for statewide preservation planning and produced the plan in order to receive federal funds under the National Historic Preservation Act.

The plan, which is intended to guide preservation efforts and decision making both locally and regionally, is the result of a two-year process initiated by the Kansas Historical Society to gather input from a variety of state and federal agencies, preservation organizations, and the public. The document identifies the network of active public, private, and non-profit organizations that contribute to the interpretation and preservation of Kansas' cultural and natural resources.

Targeted meetings and questionnaires provided the framework for gathering input on threats to historic resources in Kansas and opportunities to strengthen preservation efforts. Based on this input, the plan identifies a series of goals that can be partially or fully addressed by state and federal agencies, local governments, preservation organizations, property owners, and interested members of the public within the next five years. The goals of the plan are: broaden public knowledge about historic preservation resources, programs, and issues; strengthen advocacy for preservation; develop a statewide preservation network; integrate historic preservation practices into community planning; and fund historic preservation initiatives.

The plan is available to the public at kshs.org/preserve/pdfs/kansas_preservation_plan.pdf. Anyone interested in preservation-related issues in Kansas is encouraged to share the plan with community leaders and organizations.



National Register Nominations

At its regular quarterly meetings held Saturday, May 14, and Saturday, August 13, at the Kansas Historical Society in Topeka, the Historic Sites Board of Review voted to list eight properties in the Register of Historic Kansas Places and to forward 12 nominations to the office of the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places in Washington, D.C., to be evaluated by its professional staff. If the staff concurs with the board's findings, the properties will be included in the National Register.

by Sarah Martin
National Register Coordinator, Kansas Historical Society

Beaumont St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad Retention Pond – Beaumont, Butler County

The Beaumont St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad Retention Pond is located just south of Beaumont, an unincorporated village in Butler County. The property is historically associated with the nearby Beaumont St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad Water Tank, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1993. The St. Louis and San Francisco, colloquially known as the "Frisco," was founded in 1866 as the "Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company." The Frisco first entered Kansas in 1879, and in 1884 began construction of a new line from Beaumont to Arkansas City, which was eventually extended south from Arkansas City to Enid, Oklahoma, in 1907. Beaumont became an important division point along the line, and developed stock yards, depot, section house, and roundhouse. Most importantly, Beaumont became the place where all passing steam trains took on water and fuel.

The retention pond held the water supply that was piped to the water tank alongside the tracks where steam engines were resupplied. In the era of steam-powered locomotives, watering stations like this one were essential to railroad transportation. The retention pond—the first of its kind in Kansas to be nominated to the registers—was nominated for its local significance in the area of transportation.

Crosby, William & Delora, House – 1109 SW Topeka Boulevard, Topeka, Shawnee County

William and Delora Crosby commissioned Topeka-based architect Frank C. Squires to design this Italian Renaissance-style residence in 1910. Historic architectural features include the blond brick exterior, ionic columns, stone and terra cotta ornamentation, and a red clay-tile roof interrupted by hipped dormers. The property includes an original garage, with design and materials that reflect the house. William Crosby was a pioneer Topeka merchant



Left to right, Beaumont St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad Retention Pond, Butler County; William & Delora Crosby House, Shawnee County.



Left to right, H. C. and Susan Cross House, Lyon County; Dorrance State Bank, Russell County; Heptig Barn, Pottawatomie County.

who co-founded Crosby Brothers Department Store, a local institution from 1880 to 1975, which operated out of a building in the 700 block of Kansas Avenue. Crosby lived in this home until his death in 1922, and his wife Delora moved out by 1927. By the 1940s the home no longer functioned as a single-family residence, but rather served as offices and a reception hall due to its convenient location to the capitol and business district. Historically, the house was surrounded by other late 19th and early 20th century mansions, including the home of U.S. Vice President Charles Curtis to the north and to the east the home of Hiram P. Dillon, a local attorney, businessman, and philanthropist. Both are extant and listed in the National Register. The Crosby House was nominated for its local significance in the areas of architecture and commerce.

Cross, H.C. and Susan, House – 526 Union Street, Emporia, Lyon County

Civil War veteran and banker Harrison Cory (H.C.) Cross hired Emporia-based architect Charles W. Squires to design this high-style Queen Anne Free Classic residence. The house has an irregular hipped roof with lower cross gables, is clad with weatherboard and patterned shingles, a dominant round tower, classical porch columns, and a porte cochere. It was completed in 1894, just months before Cross' untimely death, which led to the public revelation of his massive debt and the subsequent collapse of the First National Bank that he had organized with four others. His son Charles was left to handle much of this financial burden, which pushed him to suicide in 1898. The residence remained with H.C.'s widow, Susan, until her death in 1902. The house transitioned through several different owners including Dr. William Meffert, who purchased the house in 1909 to use as a private sanitarium, the Phi Sigma Epsilon fraternity, which used the residence as its first fraternity house, and later Scott Mouse who

operated a hotel in the house. Today, it is privately owned and is undergoing rehabilitation. It was nominated for its local social history and architecture.

Dorrance State Bank – 512 Main Street, Dorrance, Russell County

The Dorrance State Bank building is located on Main Street two blocks south of the Union Pacific railroad tracks and across the street from the National Register-listed Reiff Building. Dorrance was incorporated as a third-class city in 1910 with nearly 300 residents. It was home to photographer L. W. Halbe, who created more than 1,500 images between 1908 and 1912, which resulted in an exceptional photographic record of Dorrance and the bank building. The local bank was a common lending institution for area farmers and merchants during the early 1900s when Dorrance thrived as a small farming community. This one-story, freestanding commercial building was erected in 1905 to house the Citizens State Bank, which later became the Dorrance State Bank. The bank did not survive the Great Depression and the building was sold in 1936. The Dorrance Telephone Company used the building as a switchboard facility, and it later served as a barbershop. The current owner is rehabilitating the building. It was nominated for its local commercial history.

Heptig Barn – 12115 Antons Road, Flush, Pottawatomie County

Joseph Heptig, a young German immigrant, built this vernacular limestone barn in 1883 on a 160-acre farmstead in Pottawatomie County. The barn was the first permanent structure erected on the property, which has been owned by the Heptig family for 136 years. The barn has a rectangular footprint and gable roof and is distinguished by arched openings on the north and south ends corresponding to a center aisle through the barn. Other distinguishing features include a date stone inscribed by



Left to right, Hoke Building, Reno County; Lamborn Farmstead, Leavenworth County; Murray Hill School, Neosho County.

the builder and shaped stone window lintels and stone sills. The interior configuration is arranged around a center aisle with horse stalls/pens, granaries, and corncribs along the perimeter. A three-quarter-length haymow was open to the center aisle below to facilitate the unloading of hay from a wagon inside the barn. Hand hewn timber posts and beams distinguish the interior. It was nominated for its local significance in the areas of architecture and agriculture.

Hoke Building – 25 E First Avenue, Hutchinson, Reno County

Commissioned by Hutchinson real estate speculator and agri-businessman James S. Hoke, the Hoke Building was built in 1910. It is a four-story commercial block with retail shops on the lower level and office spaces on the upper levels. Its construction corresponded with the city's transition from farm town to agricultural and industrial powerhouse. As Kansas farmers turned to wheat as a cash crop, Hutchinson found itself in the center of Kansas wheat country. The Hoke Building provided office space for a growing list of wheat-related businesses and organizations. Among the original occupants was the Hutchinson Board of Trade, a grain exchange founded in 1910. In addition to Hoke's real estate office, the building housed eight grain company offices in 1912. The building also housed agricultural industries that were non-grain related, including a lab operated by bacteriologist Martin Dupray that developed animal inoculations and tested water and feed. Following the death of James Hoke, the building changed ownership several times until the Great American Life Insurance Company bought the building in 1952. Today it is privately owned and rehabilitation is planned. It was nominated as part of the *Commercial & Industrial Resources of Hutchinson* multiple property nomination for its local commercial history.

Lamborn Farmstead – 25761 151st Street, Leavenworth, Leavenworth County

Horace Greeley Lamborn purchased a 108-acre farm in Delaware Township in 1877. Although he seems to have purchased an established farmstead, it does not appear that any buildings remain from that period. The farmstead we see today is largely a result of continued development in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Within this historic core is a cluster of buildings including a 1955 residence, two barns, granary/feed shed, cow shed, two chicken houses, garage, and an outhouse. This working farmstead's setting and relationship of historic features has remained highly intact even as it has evolved to meet changing agricultural needs and technologies. Agricultural censuses from the late 1800s portray a typical subsistence farm. Diversification on the farmstead was key to its long-term success. Family recollections suggest Lamborn boarded horses for area residents and that he drove cattle to pasture on the nearby state prison island, transporting them across the Missouri River in flat boats. And, beginning in the early 1900s, the family developed a small dairy production. The property remains in the Lamborn family, and the north barn is currently undergoing extensive rehabilitation. The property was nominated for its local significance in the area of agriculture.

Murray Hill School – 400 W Third Street, Chanute, Neosho County

Built in 1951, the Murray Hill School occupies a site that has a long association with education in Chanute. The first school was built on the site in 1887, and when it burned in December 1901, the city built a larger school on the same site. That Murray Hill School was completed in November 1902. Population growth in the 1910s and again in the 1950s pushed the community to reassess local educational needs. The Topeka architectural firm Williamson & Loeb sack,

which was well known for its civic and educational designs in the 20th century, completed drawings for the new Cross School in October 1950 and the new Murray Hill School in February 1951. The two Chanute schools are very similar to each other in design and materials and reflect national trends for school design. The simple form of the Modern Movement, with minimal architectural ornament and a strong horizontal emphasis was often employed in the design of post-World War II elementary schools. The Murray Hill School retains many of its simple, Modern Movement architectural features and its historic interior configuration. In 2008 the Unified School District built a new consolidated Chanute Elementary School on the outskirts of the city and closed the three elementary schools at the end of the 2008-2009 school year. The current owner plans to rehabilitate the building for a new use. It was nominated as part of the *Historic Public Schools of Kansas* multiple property nomination for its local educational and architectural significance.

1927 Hillsboro Water Tower – Hillsboro, Marion County

Hillsboro's first municipal water and sewer system resulted in the construction of 1927 Hillsboro Water Tower. The first efforts toward a municipal fire protection system in Hillsboro came in 1888, when the city purchased a man-powered water pump. This \$700 implement, which consisted of a tank, pump, and hose mounted on a two-wheeled wagon, required eight to 10 volunteers for operation. In an 1897 fire that threatened John G. Hill's Badger Lumber Company, the apparatus proved no better than a bucket brigade.



This equipment was used until 1900, when—at the apparent urging of Mayor Hill, who had just lost his coal sheds to fire—the city purchased new equipment. In 1912, the year the city established its first fire department, the city's “water system” consisted of wells and cisterns with a capacity of 11,000 gallons. Without adequate water pressure, all the equipment and firemen in the world proved futile against the inevitable infernos—and a dependably clean water supply would have been impossible. Hillsboro's citizens voted in favor of a bond issue in 1926 and a comprehensive water project was completed in 1927. The 75,000-gallon steel-plated water tower was nominated for its local significance in the area of community planning and development.

North Broadway School – 801 N Broadway Street, Leavenworth, Leavenworth County

The construction of North Broadway School in 1923 was part of a broader effort to erect four school buildings in Leavenworth, which included Third Avenue School, Cleveland Park School, and Sumner Elementary School. The Leavenworth School District hired architect Charles A. Smith to design the buildings. He designed the North Broadway and Third Avenue schools with identical layouts and nearly identical façades, with the only variation being the cast stone ornamentation. Gordon Walker Construction Company of Salina built the two schools. The first day of classes at North Broadway School was September 17, 1923, and 382 students were in attendance. The building functioned continuously as an elementary school until 1999, and then for various educational programs until 2010 when it was sold. The two-story U-shaped building occupies an entire block and features a concrete structure with tapestry brick cladding and cast stone ornamentation. The pointed-arch cast stone door at the front entrances and



Left to right, 1927 Hillsboro Water Tower, Marion County; North Broadway School, Leavenworth County.

diamond-patterned brickwork on the front and rear elevations reflect the Tudor Revival style. It was nominated for its local significance in the areas of education and architecture. It was nominated as part of the *Historic Public Schools of Kansas* multiple property nomination for its local educational and architectural significance.

Russell County Jail & Sheriff's Residence – 331 N Kansas Street, Russell, Russell County

The Russell County Jail and Sheriff's Residence was designed by Emporia-based architect Charles W. Squires and was built in 1907 by James L. Phinney. The building exhibits the Richardsonian Romanesque architectural style with its two crenellated corner bays or turrets and an imposing one-story porch with a massive stone archway. Although the Squires' original plan called for a brick building, the material was changed to locally quarried limestone, which is abundant and used in other community and private buildings in Russell, including the 1902 courthouse. The building served both as a jail and as a residence for the sheriff and his family until 1958. Other Kansas communities, including Seneca and Washington, erected similar jail facilities. The Russell County Historical Society has operated a museum and genealogy office out of the building since 1968. The building was nominated for its association with local law enforcement history and its architecture.

Sumner Elementary School – 1501 Fifth Avenue, Leavenworth, Leavenworth County

Leavenworth's Sumner Elementary School is located in a traditionally African American neighborhood surrounded by single-family residences and churches. The school was one of two elementary schools built to serve the community's black students in the 19th century. Lincoln School served students living in North Leavenworth;

Sumner served the students living in South Leavenworth. The first Sumner School was constructed on this site in 1866. By 1915 the original building was unable to meet the needs of its 185 students. Architect Charles Ashley Smith was hired to design the two-story brick Commercial-style building, which was completed in 1925 under the direction of longtime principal and educational leader Blanche K. Bruce. The school continued to serve South Leavenworth's African American community for more than three decades, until Leavenworth schools were desegregated following the *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* case. It closed after the 1968-1969 school year. For decades following its closure, the school district used the building as a maintenance facility. The Pentecostal Church of the Apostolic Faith purchased the building in 2000 for use as a church activity center. It was nominated as part of the *Historic Public Schools of Kansas* multiple property nomination for its statewide significance in the areas of education and architecture and for its association with Bruce.

Approved for Register of Historic Kansas Places

Beaumont Hotel – 11651 SE Main Street, Beaumont, Butler County

Originally built in 1879 as a railroad hotel, the Beaumont Hotel was significantly remodeled in 1953 to serve fly-in guests. The building took on its current form through the vision of local rancher James Clinton Squier. By the time Squier purchased the hotel and began remodeling it, his business associates were already using the adjacent pasture as a grass airstrip. Among the character-defining features from the mid-century remodel are viewing decks that were constructed to provide views to the surrounding Flint Hills landscape and the nearby grass airstrip. Soon, the hotel and its restaurant were attracting ranchers, hobby pilots, and



Left to right, Russell County Jail & Sheriff's Residence, Russell County; Sumner Elementary School, Leavenworth County; Beaumont Hotel, Butler County.



Left to right, Beaumont State Bank, Butler County; Robert and Helen Farmstead, Douglas County; Hazlett-Hurd House, Dickinson County.

day-trippers from nearby Wichita. In 1962 Squier removed the fence between the hotel and airstrip, thus beginning the tradition of pilots taxiing from the airstrip and parking their planes in front of the hotel. The building continues to serve as a hotel and restaurant. It was nominated for its local transportation and agricultural history.

Beaumont State Bank – 11651 SE 116th Street, Beaumont, Butler County

Built in 1915 during a period of local prosperity, the Beaumont State Bank building reflects the community's second period of growth, fueled by its role as a railroad junction and oil town. Although Beaumont never met the expectations of 1880s boosters, it began to show signs of permanency in the early 20th century. Beaumont School graduated its first class in 1903. In 1905 William H. Squier opened a hardware store and a lumberyard on Main Street. The Beaumont State Bank was chartered with \$10,000 in capital on June 12, 1911, and by 1915 had moved from a "frame store building across Main Street" to a modern brick building. This was the town's only lending institution, and it thrived during the 1910s and 1920s as the regional oil industry prospered. It did not survive the Great Depression and closed in 1934. The building has remained in private ownership since the bank closure. It was nominated for its local commercial history.

Gorrill, Robert & Helen, Farmstead – 984 N 1800 Road, Lawrence, Douglas County

The Robert and Helen Gorrill Farmstead is located in a rural, but rapidly developing area northwest of Lawrence in Douglas County. The Gorrill family settled on this land in 1872 and remained there until 1944. Gorrill hired Italian-born stonemason Mark Vincent Migliario to build the limestone residence in the early 1880s. Migliario reportedly erected several other stone residences in the

area. The Kansas State Agricultural Census depicts a diversified subsistence farm from 1875 to 1925, with a small number of horses, dairy cows, and the production of corn and hay for feeding cattle and swine for sale and slaughter. Today, the farmstead consists of a limestone residence, a bank barn, a granary, and a rock-lined well—all developed in the early 1880s. The property was nominated for its association with local settlement and agricultural history.

Hazlett-Hurd House – 820 NW Third Street, Abilene, Dickinson County

Built in 1887, the Hazlett-Hurd House was redesigned in the 1920s and is located along a primary residential thoroughfare west of downtown Abilene. The house is named for two locally prominent men who lived in the home at different periods—Dr. Edward Hazlett and Arthur Hurd. Hazlett, who operated a busy medical practice and opened Abilene's first hospital, built the house. His son Swede was a high school classmate and lifelong friend of Dwight Eisenhower's, who later credited Swede with convincing him to apply for an appointment to the Naval Academy, and when that did not materialize, to West Point. Local attorney and Abilene mayor Arthur Hurd purchased the house in 1916, and by the mid-1920s had significantly expanded the house to provide more parlor and bedroom space. After the renovation, the front porch featured simple porch columns and an adjacent pergola reflecting the more subdued Colonial Revival style. Importantly, though, it retained many Queen Anne stylistic features, too, including decorative wood shingles within the gables, the irregular footprint and roofline, interior woodwork, and general room arrangement. It doesn't appear that their intentions were driven by architectural stylistic preferences, as they did not completely obscure or do away with the earlier Queen Anne influences. As a result, the house reflects two



Left to right, Lane-Duncan Stable, Douglas County, Palmyra Masonic Lodge, Douglas County.

periods of development—the late 1880s and the mid-1920s—and the tastes of both the Hazletts and the Hurds. Today, the residence functions as a bed and breakfast. It was nominated for its local social history and architecture.

Lane-Duncan Stable – 1132 W 11th Street, Lawrence, Douglas County

The Lane-Duncan stable is built into the eastern slope of a steep hill located along the northern edge of the campus of the University of Kansas. It is oriented to the east and once had a commanding view of downtown Lawrence and the Kansas River valley, but trees and 20th century development have obscured that view. Despite exhaustive research of the historical record, much of this building's early history remains unknown. What is known about this building is that its vernacular limestone architecture is reflective of the settlement period and that it is a rare surviving example of a stone outbuilding within the current city limits of Lawrence. It is located on the south half of James H. Lane's original landholdings. Lane, who likely commissioned the construction of the building, was an important political figure in the early history of Lawrence and Kansas, and this property could yield information about his property holdings. Additionally, the property's subsequent owner, Wesley Duncan, comes from another locally prominent family. In the case of both men, this is the earliest extant resource left on their landholdings. The building was nominated for its architecture and potential to yield information important in history.

Palmyra Masonic Lodge – 602, 604 High Street, Baldwin City, Douglas County

Palmyra Masonic Lodge was one of the first Masonic Lodges in Kansas Territory, holding its first meetings in 1856 in the "open air." It was granted a charter in 1859, and, until the

late 1860s, the lodge met on the third floor of Baker University's "College Building" (now known as Old Castle). The Masons then partnered with the local Odd Fellows organization to build a frame building that they leased to other organizations for meeting space. A fire destroyed the building in 1891, and it took nearly three years to rebuild. The new Italianate building was dedicated on June 26, 1894. Like other fraternal buildings of that era, the first floor was designed to lease to local businesses. The second floor was divided into two principal spaces, a lodge room on the south end and a dining room on the north. Since the 1960s the building has primarily been used for storage. In recent years, the building has been threatened with demolition. The new owner plans to rehabilitate the building. It was nominated for its local social history and architecture.

Wilke, Fritz, House – 105 N Front Street, Inman, McPherson County

Built circa 1881, the Fritz Wilke House is an excellent example of the National Folk tradition, which dominated residential architecture in the late 19th century



Fritz Wilke House, McPherson County

post-railroad era. National Folk houses are typically modest and sometimes have stylistic detailing common to the period, but are best classified by their mass-produced materials and simplistic form and plan. The Wilke family emigrated from Germany to Kansas and purchased land in McPherson County in 1881. The Wilke property was representative of a typical 160-acre German immigrant farmstead in Kansas during the latter half of the 19th century. Wilke's semi-subsistence farm appears to have remained small and diversified in relation to the growing farming and ranching operations of the period with no particular specialization in swine, poultry, dairy, beef cattle, or grain production. The property remained in the Wilke family until the 1970s. The farmstead is no longer extant and was taken for the expansion of K-61, but the house has been saved and relocated to the nearby community of Inman. It was nominated for its architecture.

Youse, Clare & Glad, House – 532 E 12th Street, Baxter Springs, Cherokee County

Clare and Glad Youse purchased this residence in 1927 during a period of rapid residential growth in Baxter Springs. They immediately began making improvements to the house and hired Joplin-based architect Truman Martinie to oversee the redesign. Its distinct full-height columns distinguish it as Neoclassical. Clare was involved in local mining interests at a time when the mining industry fueled development throughout Baxter Springs,

southeast Kansas, and the tri-state area. He went on to serve as both a Kansas state representative and senator from Cherokee County in the late 1930s and 1940s. Glad attended Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri, and later studied music with eminent teacher and composer Tibor Serly in New York. She wrote more than 250 songs and choral works—many from the music room on the first floor of this house in Baxter Springs. The house was nominated for its reflection of an early 20th century residential building boom in Baxter Springs and its association with the Youses.



Clare & Glad Youse House, Cherokee County.

The National Register of Historic Places is the country's official list of historically significant properties. Properties must be significant for one or more of the four criteria for evaluation. Under Criterion A, properties can be eligible if they are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. Under Criterion B, properties can be eligible if they are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. Under Criterion C, properties can be eligible if they embody the distinctive characteristic of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. Under Criterion D, properties may be eligible for the National Register if they have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. The National Register recognizes properties of local, statewide, and national significance.



New National Historic Landmarks

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced the designation of 14 new National Historic Landmarks in 11 states and the District of Columbia that have played an integral role in the development of the country. The designations feature four national homes for disabled volunteer soldiers, including the Western Branch in Leavenworth.

by Sarah Martin
National Register Coordinator, Kansas Historical Society

The Western Branch is the fifth in a series of 11 branch institutions established between 1867 and 1929 and has continuously provided residential and medical care for veterans since 1886. It embodies the comprehensive federal policies and concepts of health care and rehabilitative care provided in a planned community as they originated after the Civil War and evolved into the first half of the 20th century. The property consists of a medical complex of residential, hospital, and support buildings, the Leavenworth National Cemetery, and a park-like historic landscape with rolling hills, a man-made lake, and curing roads. The historic buildings were constructed between 1885 and the 1940s and largely reflect the popular revival styles of the Victorian era.

The other national homes for disabled volunteer soldiers designated as national historic landmarks are Mountain Branch in Johnson City, Tennessee; Battle Mountain Branch in Hot Springs, South Dakota; and Northwestern Branch in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



This chapel is a part of the new National Historic Landmark designation in Leavenworth.

“These new listings will join approximately 2,500 other sites in the National Historic Landmark Program,” said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis. There are now 24 national historic landmarks in Kansas.



Constructed in 1886 as a general mess hall and kitchen by builder James A. McGonigle, Building 19 is an excellent example of the Romanesque Revival style. The original design was marred by the enclosure of the two-story porch with green fiberglass panels in 1971. The porch was restored to its original appearance as part of the recent rehabilitation, pictured at top.

The program, established in 1935, is administered by the National Park Service on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior. The agency works with preservation officials and other partners interested in nominating a landmark. Completed applications are reviewed by the National Park System Advisory Board, which makes recommendations for designation to the Secretary of the Interior. If selected, property ownership remains intact but each site receives a designation letter, a plaque, and technical preservation advice.

Additional information on the designations can be found at nps.gov/nhl and at ksks.org/15743.

Historic Mess Hall Rehabilitated for New Use

In 2000 the National Trust for Historic Preservation included the Eisenhower Veteran's Administration (VA) Medical Center of Leavenworth, as the second project on its list of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places. The VA planned demolition for 39 buildings, but as a federal agency, the VA had to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (see "VA Plan Threatens Historic Buildings," *Kansas Preservation*, November-December 1999). After extensive consultation among the VA, the Kansas SHPO, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), and consulting parties such as the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Kansas Preservation Alliance, and the Preservation Alliance of Leavenworth, a memorandum of agreement was signed in June 2005 by the VA, SHPO, and ACHP establishing development requirements. In August 2005 Pioneer Group of Topeka signed an "enhanced use lease" with the VA whereby the federal agency retained ownership of the property while leasing the buildings for private development (see "VA Turns Over Keys to Historic Buildings," *Kansas Preservation*, September-October 2005). The program has been touted by many as an excellent example of a win-win public/private partnership. The VA was able to redirect its operating budget more directly to serving the veterans rather than maintaining vacant buildings, and Pioneer Group saved the historic buildings from demolition.

While Pioneer Group has rehabilitated approximately half of the 39 buildings for housing or office use, the most recent project also became one of the top economic development projects for the state of Kansas. Utilizing state and federal rehabilitation tax credits, Pioneer Group renovated the 60,000 square foot historic mess hall building, also known as Building 19, into modern and efficient office space for the Central Plains Consolidated Account Center (CPAC). At the ribbon cutting ceremony held on August 31, 2011, CPAC announced it was bringing 400 new well-paid jobs to Kansas.

An Unconventional Success: Gray County Documents its Unique Past



Until two years ago, only one Gray County building, the Cimarron Hotel, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Although two key properties, the Old Gray County Courthouse, famous for its role in a bloody county seat fight, and the home of Gray County pioneer Doc Barton, were recently added to the rolls, there had never been a concerted effort to identify the county's significant properties. A year ago, Gray County properties accounted for only 15 of the state's 60,000-property historic inventory database. In an unprecedented effort to document the county's historic resources, the Gray County Historical Society changed those statistics.

With funding from the Kansas Historical Society's Historic Preservation Fund Grant program, the county's first, the Gray County Historical Society hired Davis Preservation to survey 169 properties in the commercial business districts of Cimarron, Montezuma, Copeland, Ingalls, and Ensign and to nominate one of the county's best-known resources, the Soule Canal, to the National Register of Historic Places.

A project of this magnitude in rural Kansas, particularly in western Kansas where the majority of buildings were built in the 20th century, required a unique approach. Many of the traditional sources for researching historic buildings,



This building was constructed soon after Copeland's founding in 1912.



Originally founded in 1887, Ensign grew after the Santa Fe Railway established a southern route through south Gray County in 1912. This photo was taken in 1914.



A historic view of downtown Ingalls, which was founded by canal investor Asa Soule, who intended to make it the county seat.

including Sanborn maps and city directories, were not available for much of Gray County. Fortunately, the construction of many of the buildings in Gray County's downtowns fell within reach of community memory. During the second of three public meetings the historical society hosted, residents were encouraged to share their downtown stories. Christy Davis came equipped with an audio recorder—and Gray County Historical Society supplied the food. Participants were given worksheets with images of prominent downtown buildings and asked to note their memories and any information they could share about the buildings. Davis Preservation followed up with phone interviews of several lifetime residents.

The survey record for the Peoples State Bank in Ensign, compiled with information provided by lifetime resident Betty Herrman, is a study in the combination of historical research and oral history. The bank, which was closed by the State Banking Commissioner in 1935, was later converted to Smith's Fountain and Coffee Shop by Luella Pegram Smith and her husband Earl Smith, who lived in the back. After their deaths, the building was sold to Bruce Hartnett who used it for a carpenter's shop.

The result of this unconventional approach is an eclectic survey that includes historical tidbits gleaned from both the distant and recent past.



The Opera House in Cimarron operated as a theater and drug store, and housed various fraternal organizations. It reflects a 1950s remodel.



The Gray County Shops in Cimarron were built by the Works Progress Administration in 1936. Photo courtesy Christy Davis.



There are still a handful of false-front buildings in Gray County. This one in Copeland likely dates to the time of the town's founding in 1912. Photo courtesy Christy Davis.



The Peoples State Bank in Ensign was converted to a coffee shop and residence after the bank closed in 1935. Photo courtesy Christy Davis.



The Ingalls Santa Fe Depot, known as the Santa Fe Trail Museum, was built in 1891. Photo courtesy Christy Davis.



Montezuma Hardware was built in 1927, and would have been one of the first permanent buildings that replaced the original wood-framed false-front buildings. Photo courtesy Christy Davis.

Gray County Tidbits

- Cimarron and Ingalls are located in the Arkansas River Valley, the historic route of the Santa Fe Trail, Santa Fe Railway, and U.S. 50.
- Ingalls was founded in 1884 by New York capitalist Asa T. Soule who invested heavily in a 96-mile irrigation canal that came to be called the Soule Canal.
- In order to secure Montezuma's support for Ingalls' county seat bid, Soule proposed a rail line through southern Gray County, the Dodge City, Montezuma & Trinidad Railway.
- Cimarron, the first city in what would become Gray County, was platted in 1878. Cimarron beat out Ingalls in a bloody contest that left three men dead; it came to be called the "state's most desperate county seat fight."
- Ensign, Montezuma, and Copeland, which fall along U.S. 56, grew after the Santa Fe Railway established a southern route through the county in 1912.
- Ensign was founded in 1887 by G. L. Ensign, a Jewish merchant who also founded the southwest Kansas Jewish colony of Beersheba.
- Montezuma, re-platted two miles from its original location, was named after the Aztec emperor who was conquered by Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortes. Streets are named for figures and places associated with the conquest.
- Copeland, which was named after Santa Fe Secretary/Treasurer E. L. Copeland, was platted by the Santa Fe Land Improvement Company in 1912, in advance of the arrival of the new Santa Fe line.
- Gray County pioneer Welborn "Doc" Barton, who brought 3,000 cattle from Texas is regarded as the state's first cattleman. Today, there are 190,000 feedlot cattle and more than 40,000 dairy cows in Gray County. (That's nearly 40 cows per person!)
- Today, Gray County boasts the state's largest wind farm in Kansas.

Call for Water Towers

Statewide interest in historic water towers is growing! Often overlooked, these modest structures are essential links in the story of a community's development.

Staff members at the Kansas Historical Society are curious to see how many types of towers exist. We are therefore asking the public to help identify Kansas's diverse water towers. The agency will begin documenting these structures in the first few months of 2012. To recommend a water tower for this survey, contact Amanda Loughlin, survey coordinator, at 785-272-8681, ext. 257, or survey@kshs.org.



1887 Coolidge Water Tower



1927 Hillsboro Water Tower



1930s Mahaska Water Tower



1940s Coffeyville AAF Water Tower

Wichita's South Central Neighborhood Survey

In May 2010 the city of Wichita planning department received a Historic Preservation Fund grant from the Kansas Historical Society to survey structures immediately south of the downtown commercial district and enter the information into the Kansas Historic Resources Inventory online database (kshs.org/khri). The survey area of the south central neighborhood is bounded by Kellogg on the north, the Arkansas River on the west, Santa Fe/Burlington Railway right-of-way on the east and Morris Street on the south.



One-story cottages can be found throughout the south central neighborhood.

The south central neighborhood measures two square miles. It is bounded on the east by railroad tracks and Mead Avenue and on the west by the Arkansas River. North and south boundaries are Kellogg Avenue (US 54/US 400) and Pawnee Street, respectively. The total neighborhood contains one small National Register historic district (Winders District), three properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places (Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, Monroe Mahan House, and Engine House #6), and one property in the Wichita Register of Historic Places (Schnitzler House—also eligible for the state and national registers).

The survey area for this project comprises one-fourth of the total neighborhood.

The south central neighborhood area one survey yielded 381 inventory forms, which include residences and

commercial buildings. One hundred four buildings, almost 28 percent, have been determined potentially eligible for listing in the state and National Register by the surveyors.

The neighborhood has been substantially residential since its development in the late 19th century. As houses began to fill the platted lots, residents depended on home delivery and streetcar service for commerce and shopping. During the high building period of the 1920s, intermittent little “corner stores” scattered themselves throughout the area. At mid-century a commercial strip grew up along South Broadway Avenue (formerly Lawrence), which supported the households with neighborhood businesses. Broadway is now entirely commercial with very few exceptions of remaining residences.

South Topeka, Emporia, Market, Main, Wichita, and Water Streets extend south from the downtown business

district. Concrete sidewalks, mature trees, and original set-back lines still present a substantial historic residential streetscape between Kellogg and Lincoln Streets.

Residents of the area were predominately European American, but a small Hispanic community has always occupied the east fringe along the railroad tracks. Churches are a character defining feature of the neighborhood. Still serving the area are Grace Methodist Episcopal Church (NRHP), built in 1910; a Mexican Catholic church still operates a clinic at 940 South St. Francis on the 1930s site of its original church and school buildings, and a Mexican Protestant church has also been located at 927 South St. Francis since 1925.

Housing types in the neighborhood range from one and two-story Queen Anne cottages of the 19th century to American foursquare houses and bungalows of the early 20th century, and also include infill duplexes and houses of the mid-20th century Minimal Traditional style. Most houses in the area have been modified by the application of asbestos, vinyl, or metal siding; many bungalow porches have been reconstructed with concrete floors and wrought iron posts in place of the original wood or masonry piers; some structures have lost their original configuration due to additions at the first and/or second floor level. The P.N. Randal House is a Queen Anne Free Classic sub-type, designed by architect C.W. Terry; it is currently undergoing renovation by the home owner. A common vernacular house type found through-out this neighborhood is a

one-story cottage as shown by this residence located on South Main. It has the architectural detail elements of the Queen Anne Free Classic subtype, but has a vernacular form.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps were a valuable resource and used along with Wichita city directories to provide estimated construction dates when building permit documentation was unavailable. The 1903, 1914, 1935, and 1950 Sanborn maps provided documentation of the construction of single family residences in the survey area and the changes that occurred during periods of population growth. The years between 1914 and 1950 reveal the great extent to which multifamily housing had occurred in the neighborhood. Duplexes, flats, apartment buildings, and apartment courts are located on nearly every block between Kellogg and Morris Street.

City and county aerial maps provided structure information post 1950. Site plans were created from the 2008 aerial database and in some cases Bing® maps were added to the survey forms. Wichita-Sedgwick County metropolitan area planning department has contracted to update the aerial maps in spring and early summer 2011 and those images will be available online in 2012. In addition to aerial images available online, the Wichita Public Library central branch retains the aerial maps for Wichita and Sedgwick County in its local history section dating from 1938 up through 2006.



This one-story cottage is a common vernacular house type in the neighborhood.



The P.N. Randal House is currently undergoing renovation.

Historic and Scenic Benefits of a Rock Fence Restoration Workshop

Driving through Wabaunsee County in the Kansas Flint Hills you can't help but notice the dry laid (unmortared) rock fences that line the road. Many of these have fallen and are little more than rows of rubble along the road, but others surround large fields or stone houses that are more than 100 years old. These fences are old too, many being built soon after an 1867 law abolished the open range in Kansas and provided landowners a payment of 40 cents per rod (16.5 feet) to build and maintain fences.

by **Bob Hoard**
State Archeologist, Kansas Historical Society

Rock fences are commonly seen in the northeastern and north central United States, particularly in New England, and in the Kentucky Bluegrass Region. There are fewer of them in the Midwestern and Western United States. Rock fences are not common in Kansas, and when encountered often are in groups. I first discovered them when working in the Kansas City metropolitan area. A little research showed that most rock fences—but not all—are associated with English, Scottish, or German immigrants. These people brought their longstanding Old World traditions to the United States.

According to the 1872 Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for the Year 1871, rock fences cost \$2 per rod to build, while more common forms of wooden fence cost only \$1.20 to \$1.36 per rod. This is because rock fences require a lot of labor to build, and they take more skill to build than wooden fences. However, once built, rock fences need little repair if built well, and can last more than 100 years.

So what does it take to make a dry laid rock fence? Ever since I started studying rock fences, I wanted to see what it was like to build one. My chance came this spring when a dry stone fence renovation workshop was held on the farm of Don and Julie Meseke, just north of Alma in Wabaunsee County. This was the eighth rock fence workshop sponsored by the Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway committee, which is working to restore and maintain rock fences along Kansas highways K-4 and K-99. (ksbyways.org/pages/Native/native1.html) in the Kansas Flint Hills.



A recently-restored rock fence on K-99 north of Alma. Rock fences like this are common in Wabaunsee County and are associated with German settlement there. Inset, Marita Elliott of the Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway committee organized the workshop.



Left to right, Rocky Slaymaker led the workshop near Alma; string lines serve to guide builders to create a fence that is battered—wider at the bottom than the top, workshop participants continuing rock wall restoration from 2010.

Rocky Slaymaker of Emporia led the workshop. Rocky received training at the Dry Stone Conservancy (drystone.org) in the heart of the Kentucky Bluegrass Region, where rock fences line the roads and fields. Rocky also works as a mason, and while much of his work involves building mortared structures, he prefers dry masonry.

When the workshop began, Rocky assembled the 18 workshop participants, gave us some basic instructions, and turned us loose. Some work had been done in advance. A foundation of large, flat stones had been laid, and string lines were set to make sure the fence was battered—wider at the bottom than the top—for strength. Importantly, several piles of rock had been hauled in from nearby. Rocky's basic advice began to expand when put into practice. He stood back, let us work, answered questions, and stepped in with advice when problems emerged.

I learned a few things from building this fence. You have to find a rock that fits well with those beside and below it. Sometimes by the time you find that perfect rock, the person across from you has added to the wall and changed the space you sought to fill. You learn to be patient. You learn that you can use your mason's hammer and chisel to shape a rock to fit a space, and quickly learn that this also can lead to splitting a fine rock that you, for some reason, thought needed to be just a little better. You learn that lifting rock all day gets tiring. At about a ton of rock per foot of fence, you lift a lot of rock. You start to appreciate that rock was delivered for the workshop and that you didn't need to collect it from the field or pry it from ledges. You learn that this is labor intensive and that it also takes concentration. Finally, it became clear to me that while a novice can

contribute to building a rock fence, skill and experience are essential for doing the job well.

The beauty of dry laid rock fences is that they are made from material at hand. That material is irregular, and it's best not only to accept that the fence won't have straight, level coursework but that it's good to mix it up. Double coursing—*butting* two stones up against one—is encouraged. Occasionally a rock will be wedge-shaped or blocky, but if you watch for an opportunity even an oddball rock will find a home in a fence that will last 100 years. We hope.

In the end the workshop participants built 60 feet of fence, topped by slanting coping stones to discourage sheep from thinking about going over. Rocky managed to organize a bunch of people from different walks of life—ranchers, students, housewives, a lawyer, an architect, and an archeologist—and with some succinct advice and a few on the job tips, enhance the traditional landscape of the Flint Hills. There are rumors of an October workshop. I plan to be there.



Crew of the spring 2011 workshop.

1862 Intrigue Adds Interest to Artifacts from Morris County Archeological Site

The echoes of dramatic events that played out in the early years of Kansas statehood continue to resonate in today's Kansas Historical Society's archeology lab. Then there was unrequited love, allegations of horse thievery, arson, and murder. Now there are artifacts offering clues toward an understanding of those who helped to shape the state.

By Chris Garst, Kansas Historical Society Lab Archeologist
and Paul Goebel, Archeology Lab Volunteer

The Baker House in Morris County was home to Arthur Baker and his wife. There and at his nearby trading post, sensational happenings unfolded in 1862. Much about Baker's life remains shrouded in time, even though he was a "mover and shaker" in Kansas and Missouri during the early Civil War period. During his lifetime and at his death, he was viewed as either a hero or a villain, depending upon which side was favored: federal or rebel. Local newspaper accounts printed within a few decades of his death and an Emporia State University master's thesis by William M. Shemeall are the main sources used to flesh out Baker's life. At times these accounts agree with one another, but at others they vary widely. This article attempts to merge the accounts and produce a snapshot in time of Arthur Baker.

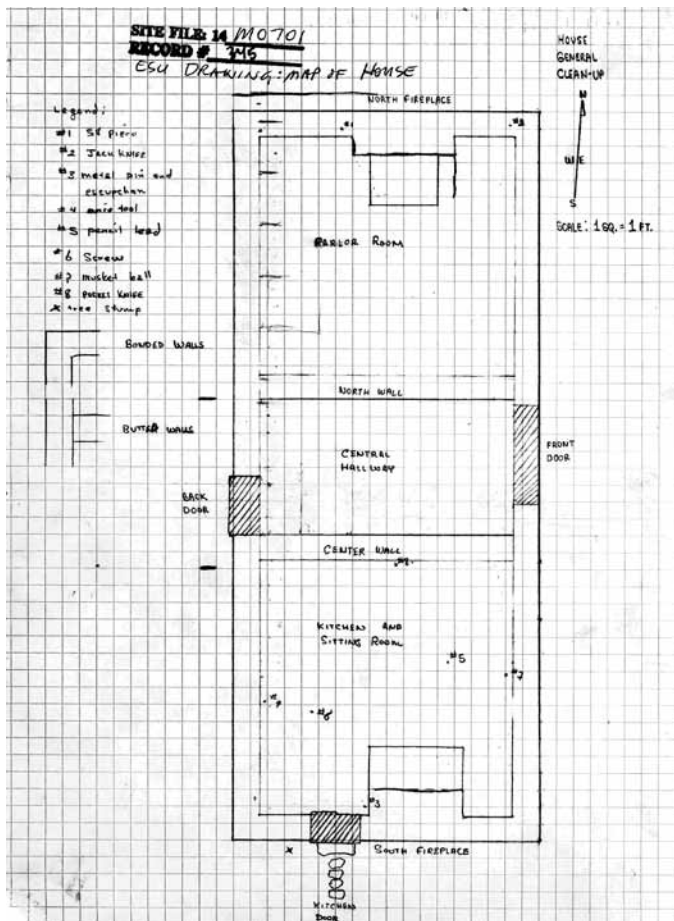
Baker came to Kansas in 1847, serving first as a blacksmith to the Sac and Fox. In the 1850s he began farming, established a store, and was commissioned as a justice of the peace. In 1856 he founded Agnes City (named after his wife) and promoted it to be the county seat of what was then Breckenridge County. Baker owned slaves, yet he ran for the territorial legislature as a Free State party candidate in 1855 and 1856, losing both times.

More successful was Baker's bid to get Agnes City declared the county seat. He became the first county probate judge and served on the county commission. He helped to organize other towns in the county: Americus and Emporia. By 1860 changes were occurring all across the country and especially in Kansas. Baker lost his commission seat, and the county seat was moved to Emporia.



Reconstructed dishes recovered during the excavation of the Baker house.

Baker also moved to Emporia where he edited a newspaper, bought the Union Hotel, and declared himself to be a staunch supporter of Abraham Lincoln. As proof he organized and recruited a company of volunteers in spring 1861. Serving as captain, Baker then led the group to Missouri. Confusing the issue, accounts speak of his arrest by an attachment of the Sixth Kansas Militia Infantry on charges of treason and supporting the secessionist cause. To further muddy the waters, Baker was tried and acquitted, or perhaps released due to the influence of friends, and returned home in November 1861. One has to wonder how he talked his way out of that predicament.



Floor plan of the Baker House drawn during Emporia State University's field school.

Baker's wife, Agnes, died early in 1861. He began to court Mary Anderson, the daughter of a neighbor. Her brother, Bill "Bloody Bill" Anderson, described by PBS's *American Experience* as a "sociopath who lived for spilling blood," was a resolute Southern supporter and a notorious border ruffian. We will never know if the Anderson family would have overlooked Baker's changeable political allegiance and accepted him. During the courtship of Mary Anderson, Baker suddenly married a different neighbor's daughter, Anis Secor or Seigar, in May 1862.

Either shortly before or soon after the marriage, two horses were stolen from Anis Secor's father. Suspicions rested firmly on the Anderson boys and their cohorts. Baker had a warrant made out for their arrest. Onto the stage stepped Bill Anderson, Sr., father of the now-scorned Mary and her two brothers. Bill, Sr., made vocal threats against Baker. He wanted to prevent Baker from appearing as a witness against his son on the charge of stealing horses. Some accounts state that Anderson got drunk, grabbed his gun, and headed to

Baker's house to settle the issue. Baker had been warned of Anderson's anger and was well prepared. When Bill Anderson, Sr., arrived at his house, Baker shot and killed him in self-defense.

If the Anderson family was unhappy that their sister was jilted, imagine what they thought of their father being killed. They went to Baker's house to call him out, but his home was well defended, and he would not leave. After nearly a month, on July 3, 1862, Baker dropped his guard and came out of the house. Once he left the safety of his home, his fate was sealed.

Baker walked down to his trading post with a man he believed to be a wagon train master. In reality this man was a friend of Bloody Bill's, and some have argued that he was none other than William Quantrill. Shots rang out, and Baker was wounded. He managed to barricade himself in the cellar of the store. The Andersons and their cohorts set fire to the store (and later, the house), and the severely wounded Baker died in the fire. There ends a tale of love, scorn, revenge, and murder.

The Baker house site was excavated in 1972 and 1973 at the Kansas State Teacher's College (now Emporia State University) archeological field school. The principal investigator both years, Dr. Jeffrey Brown, led 15 or 16 students in 1972 and nine students in 1973. Some cleaning, cataloging, and analysis were begun on the collections in the following years. By 1975 Dr. Brown had transferred to the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and the collection from the 14MO701 traveled with him.

Sadly, Dr. Brown died prior to completing the analysis and report of the artifacts. In 1986 the Jeffrey L. Brown Institute of Archaeology transferred the collection back to Emporia State University. In 1993 Emporia State University donated the collection, consisting of 62 large boxes of artifacts and associated records, to the Kansas Historical Society.

At the Kansas Historical Society's archeology lab, volunteers have begun the cleaning, sorting, cataloging, and analysis of this collection. Archeology lab volunteer Paul Goebel undertook some of the background research. Additionally, several boxes from this collection traveled to the 2010 and 2011 Kansas Archeology Training Program field school and received attention there. No researcher has yet agreed to examine this material, but it is hoped that one will soon be found. Until one is, Archeology Lab Supervisor Chris Garst and volunteers will continue to piece together artifacts and clues offered by these objects from the time of early statehood.

Artifact Identification at Pawnee Indian Museum

On August 20, 2011, Historical Society archeologists Chris Garst and Virginia Wulfkuhle conducted the annual artifact identification session at Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site in Republic.

By Chris Garst, Kansas Historical Society Lab Archeologist
and Paul Goebel, Archeology Lab Volunteer

There was never a dull moment as Richard Gould, site administrator, registered about 65 people during the five-hour event. A number of interesting objects and several important larger collections were brought to the event. It is hoped that follow-up can be done with the owners to record the sites and document the artifacts more fully.



Garst discusses a collection of chipped stone tools with Bethany Roe. These artifacts were made of obsidian (volcanic glass), which is not naturally occurring in Kansas. In the background on the right, Kansas Anthropological Association member Margie Reed from Salina was on hand to assist Historical Society staff. Photo by Richard Gould.



Wulfkuhle explains to a young family the timeline of Kansas prehistory and how it relates to their collection. Photo by Margie Reed.



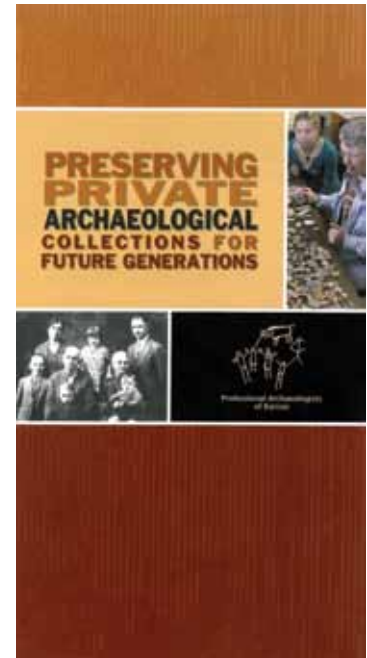
Wulfkuhle examines and discusses objects brought to the event. Photo by Richard Gould.

New Brochure on Preserving Private Archeological Collections

Private archeological collections that have been donated to universities or public institutions in the past have become extremely valuable to researchers. Members of the Professional Archaeologists of Kansas (PAK) feel that reminding and informing the general public of the importance of these collections is an important service. Earlier this year, with funding assistance from the National Park Service through the Kansas Historical Society, PAK created a brochure, Preserving Private Archaeological Collections for Future Generations. The brochure was produced to coincide with Kansas Archaeology Month in April.

by **Bob Blasing**

President, Professional Archaeologists of Kansas



Through the years several members of the PAK team that wrote this brochure have been approached by individuals with questions about how to best preserve their artifact collections. Too often privately held collections are lost or their value greatly diminished when the original collector dies. Heirs sometimes do not appreciate the true value of the collections, and financial concerns sometimes result in collections being either sold at auction or divided among several descendants. Crucial information concerning where and when the collections were found frequently is destroyed or separated from the artifacts.

This brochure informs collector-owners and their families throughout the state of Kansas about issues that may arise in passing on their collections to future generations. It contains information about ways to ensure that collections will be accessible to the general public and to safeguard the critical data regarding where the objects were collected. It also discusses both legal and ethical considerations in assuring that collections are preserved for future generations and provides concrete suggestions to use in estate planning.

The brochure was widely distributed by mail to avocational archeologists and collectors. It was also sent to Kansas county museums. In addition, PAK members hand out brochures in conjunction with talks and presentations given around the state. If you did not receive a copy of the brochure or would additional copies, contact Professional Archaeologist of Kansas, 1924 Bluehills Road, Manhattan KS 66502-4503. The brochure is posted in PDF format on the PAK website at ksarchaeo.info/home.shtml.

The Professional Archaeologists of Kansas is an organization of professional archeologists conducting research in Kansas and also includes students working toward degrees and careers in archeology. The goal of PAK is to encourage and facilitate communication about the historic and prehistoric cultural heritage of Kansas and the importance of protecting and preserving archeological resources for future generations. For more information about PAK, visit its website at the URL above.

An Enthusiastic Reception for Project Archaeology Curriculum

The Kansas Historic Preservation Office continued its support of Project Archaeology in Kansas by sponsoring a teacher workshop, “Understanding Past and Present Cultures: Bringing Project Archaeology into the Classroom,” August 3-5, 2011. The class was held at Educational Services and Staff Development Association of Central Kansas (ESSDACK) in Hutchinson, an educational service center that provides staff development activities for educators. Twenty teachers were selected from applicants from across the state—Kansas City to Beloit to Garden City. The images in this article are captioned with their words, taken from workshop evaluations.

by Virginia A. Wulfkuhle
State Archeologist, Kansas Historical Society

Four instructors divided presentation responsibilities. Virginia Wulfkuhle is the Historical Society’s public archeologist and Project Archaeology coordinator for Kansas; Nathan McAlister, history teacher at Royal Valley Middle School in Mayetta, was the 2010 National History Teacher of the Year and is an alumnus of the 2010 Project Archaeology Leadership Academy in Montana; Brenda Culbertson is an astronomy educator and experienced amateur archaeologist; and Annette Roach, a teacher at Royal Valley Elementary School, recently returned from the 2011 Leadership Academy, was an unexpected and welcomed member of the instructional team.

The first two days were devoted to Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelter. This curriculum, written for grades three through five, has been endorsed by the National Council for the Social Studies and received the 2010 Excellence in Public Education Award from the Society for American Archaeology. Instructors covered the overview, the warm-up, all nine lessons, and the final performance of understanding. The investigation of a Pawnee earthlodge, included in the book, is based on 14RP1 (Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site) in north central Kansas.



“The early lessons really set up the background for understanding archaeology and the role archaeologists play, so I feel that was essential. . . . For one thing, these lessons were great for demonstrating the difference between observations versus inferences—a huge reading indicator. I loved the activity . . . analyzing the Family Room site.”



“The real highlight of this workshop was the plastic drop dig mats that were created. I can find multiple uses for this type of activity in the classroom and get kids involved in authentic hands-on learning.”

The final performance of understanding (where students show that they have grasped the material) is a role-playing activity. Groups of participants take on rival roles and present their viewpoints to a city council. Even the educators were totally immersed in the activity, including a picketer spontaneously interrupting the council meeting.

Brenda Culbertson’s expertise was incorporated as an enhancement to the workshop experience. She used an inflatable planetarium to present a segment on Pawnee archaeoastronomy, which elicited an enthusiastic reception.

The instructors made a special effort to emphasize the stewardship message, and the teachers “got it.”

The last day was spent on two Kansas-specific units, developed by the Kansas Historical Society: The Archaeology of Early Agriculture in Kansas: A Fifth Grade Integrated Reading Unit and Migration of the Pueblo People to El Cuartelejo: A Seventh Grade Integrated Reading Unit. Both units consist of a student magazine, student journal, and teacher guide (for more information, visit ksks.org/15251.) Teams of participants were assigned to model sections of each unit. It was interesting to see their contrasting teaching styles, utilizing the advanced technology available at ESSDACK, as well as low-tech devices.

The strengths of the Kansas-specific materials were readily apparent to the educators.

Along the way McAlister and Wulfkuhle introduced participants to the Historical Society’s Kansas Memory web site (kansasmemory.org), Read Kansas! cards (ksks.org/14921), and the KSHS archeology traveling trunk Puzzles from the Past: Problem Solving through Archeology (ksks.org/14954). In addition, participants were given time to share various teaching ideas with each other. More than half of the participants enrolled in the workshop for college credit, earning two credit hours from Baker University. At the end of three days, the graduating class was still smiling.



“Lots of relevance to the population of kids we teach. Learned so much I never knew about the field of archaeology and the Pawnee people ... and so much more.”



“I thoroughly enjoyed this workshop! It was well-organized and I was provided with a lot of useful ideas to use in my classroom.”

Historic Sites Board of Review

The Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review is a group of 11 professionals from various fields that meets quarterly to review and recommend nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and the Register of Historic Kansas Places, and award preservation planning and rehabilitation grants. As prescribed by the Kansas Historic Preservation Act of 1977 (K.S.A. 75-2719), the board is comprised of the following members: the governor or the governor's designee, the state historic preservation officer or such officer's designee, and nine members appointed by the governor for three-year terms. At least one member must be professionally qualified in each of the following disciplines: architecture, history, prehistoric archeology, historical archeology, and architectural history.

Jennie Chinn, State Historic Preservation Officer
Craig Crosswhite, Ness City, chair
J. Eric Engstrom, Wichita, governor's designee, vice chair
John W. Hoopes, Lawrence
Nancy Horst, Winfield
Leo Oliva, Stockton
Billie Marie Porter, Neodesha
Daniel Sabatini, Lawrence
David H. Sachs, Manhattan
Jay Price, Wichita
Margaret Wood, Topeka

Cultural Resources Division State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and Archeology Staff

Jennie Chinn
Preservation Officer (SHPO)
785-272-8681, ext. 205
jchinn@kshs.org

Bob Hoard
State Archeologist
785-272-8681, ext. 269
rhoard@kshs.org

Amanda Loughlin
Survey Coordinator
785-272-8681, ext. 257
aloughlin@kshs.org

Cindi Vahsholtz
Grants Clerk
785-272-8681, ext. 245
cvahsholtz@kshs.org

Rick Anderson
National Register Historian
785-272-8681, ext. 228
randerson@kshs.org

Michelle Holmes
Administrative Assistant
785-272-8681, ext. 230
mholmes@kshs.org

Sarah Martin
National Register Coordinator
785-272-8681, ext. 216
smartin@kshs.org

Tricia Waggoner
Highway Archeologist
785-272-8681, ext. 267
twaggoner@kshs.org

Dorothy Booher
Office Assistant
785-272-8681, ext. 230
dbooher@kshs.org

Matthew Holtkamp
Tax Credit Reviewer
785-272-8681, ext. 256
mholtkamp@kshs.org

Ken Price
Architect
785-272-8681, ext. 212
kprice@kshs.org

Tim Weston
SHPO Archeologist
785-272-8681, ext. 214
tweston@kshs.org

Kim Norton Gant
Review and Compliance
Coordinator
785-272-8681, ext. 225
kgant@kshs.org

Kristen Johnston
Tax Credit Coordinator
785-272-8681, ext. 213
kjohnston@kshs.org

Katrina Ringler
Grants Manager/CLG Coordinator
785-272-8681, ext. 215
kringler@kshs.org

Virginia Wulfkuhle
Public Archeologist
785-272-8681, ext. 266
vwulfkuhle@kshs.org

Chris Garst
Laboratory Archeologist
785-272-8681, ext. 151
cgarst@kshs.org

Marsha Longofono
Tax Credit Clerk
785-272-8681, ext. 240
mlongofono@kshs.org

John Tomasic
Archeologist
785-272-8681, ext. 258
jtomasic@kshs.org

Patrick Zollner
Division Director &
Deputy SHPO
785-272-8681, ext. 217
pzollner@kshs.org

Steven Keehner
Administrative Assistant
785-272-8681, ext. 235
skeehner@kshs.org

CONTACT US



6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka KS 66615-1099

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Happenings in Kansas

Online at kshs.org/events

Through December 31, 2011

150 Things I Love About Kansas • Exhibit at Kansas Museum of History, Topeka

Through November 2011

Past to Present: the Diversity of Pawnee Artists • Exhibit at Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

November 1, 2011

Heritage Trust Fund Grant deadline

November 11, 2011

Veteran's Day • Sites closed for state holiday

November 4, 2011 • Kansas Historical Foundation 136th Annual Meeting • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

November 12, 2011

Fall Fun Foods • Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site, Fairway (Kansas City area)

November 12, 2011 and January 14, 2012

Second Saturdays by the Grinter Stove • Grinter Place State Historic Site, Kansas City

November 13, 2011

Fall Lecture • Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

November 19, 2011

Historic Sites Board of Review • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

November 24-25, 2011

Thanksgiving • Sites closed for state holiday

December 1, 2011-April 29, 2012

Ledger Art of the Cheyennes and Kiowas Exhibit • Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

December 1, 2011

Holiday Open House • Kaw Mission State Historic Site, Council Grove

December 2-3, 2011

Christmas Past • Fort Hays State Historic Site, Hays

December 4, 2011

Holiday Open House • Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

December 10

Holiday at Grinter Place • Grinter Place State Historic Site, Kansas City

January 25-28, 2012

Kansas Preservation Conference • Wichita

Join the Preserving Kansas listserv under Historic Preservation at kshs.org.