

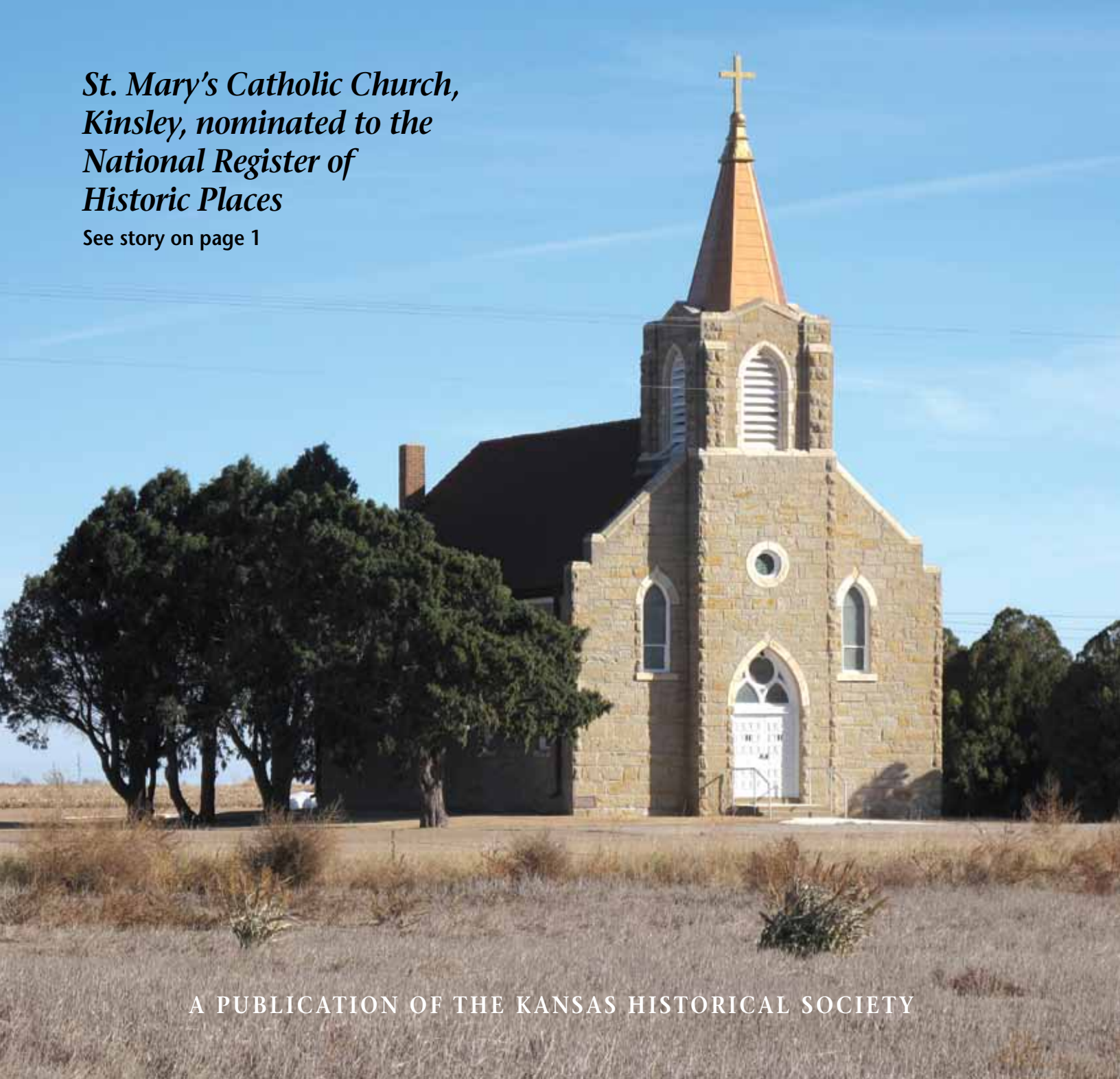
Kansas Preservation

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REAL PLACES. REAL STORIES.

*St. Mary's Catholic Church,
Kinsley, nominated to the
National Register of
Historic Places*

See story on page 1



A PUBLICATION OF THE KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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Resources Division
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Volume 37 Number 1

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On the cover: St. Mary's Catholic Church in
Hodgeman County was nominated to the National
Register of Historic Places. **See story on page 1.**

Before and After

The Rorabaugh-Wiley Building in Hutchinson had been awaiting rehabilitation for many years. This highrise downtown building was constructed in 1912 with classical revival features that characterized many early 20th century commercial buildings. Changes over the decades diminished the building's integrity, but as a contributing element in the Hutchinson Downtown Core North Historic District there was an opportunity available for state and federal tax incentives to help fund rehabilitation. The \$12.5 million project recently completed by owner Wiley Plaza LLC restored many historic features of the building including the exterior storefront, the original tile floors and the marble-paneled lobby. The building will now be used as apartments on the upper floors with commercial spaces available along the street.



NATIONAL AND STATE REGISTERS OF HISTORIC PLACES

The Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review met Saturday, February 14, at the Kansas Historical Society in Topeka to consider nominations to the Register of Historic Kansas Places and National Register of Historic Places. Among the 10 approved nominations were an Art Moderne elementary school in Independence and a Girl Scout Little House in Ashland. The nominations are now under review by the staff of the Keeper of the National Register in Washington, D.C. As of this printing, there are 1,394 Kansas listings in the National Register.

by Sarah Martin

National Register coordinator, Kansas Historical Society

P. J. Lindquist Building • 118 South Main Street Lindsborg • McPherson County

Swedish immigrant P. J. Lindquist commissioned the construction of this building in 1901 to house his tailor shop and an upper-floor living space. That year, Lindsborg led other McPherson County towns in investment in new commercial and residential building. Although the tailor shop was short-lived, the Lindquist family owned the building for 39 years. The family lived in the second-floor apartment for many years, apparently after closing the tailor shop. Other businesses, such as the Tea Cup Inn, subsequently occupied the commercial space. The Malm Brothers Painting Company reportedly packed and shipped stencils from this building, and research into this association continues. One interior wall provides a vibrant stencil sample that may be the work of local artist Oscar Gunnarson, a partner in the Malm Company. The building is an excellent example of an early 20th century commercial building distinguished by Italianate-style details including the cast-iron storefront and tall second-story windows with ornate metal hoods. Although the building has housed multiple tenants on both floors over the years, it retains a high degree of integrity. It is nominated for its local significance in the areas of commerce and architecture.



P. J. Lindquist Building, McPherson County.



Left to right, Washington School, Montgomery County; Bown-Corby School, Marion County.

**Washington School • 300 E Myrtle Street
Independence • Montgomery County**

Washington School was constructed with the assistance of the federal Public Works Administration (PWA) and officially opened in 1940. The two-story building is constructed of architectural concrete and reflects the early Modern Movement in architecture, defined by its stepped rectangular massing and clean lines with contrasting forms. Entrances feature curved concrete walls and railings characteristic of the Art Moderne style. The school was designed by Thomas W. Williamson and Company, a Topeka-based firm with hundreds of public school commissions. Washington School served the community of Independence as a public grade school until 2011. It is nominated as part of the *Historic Public Schools of Kansas and New Deal-era Resources of Kansas* multiple property nominations for its local significance in the areas of education and architecture.

**Bown-Corby School • 412 North 2nd Street
Marion • Marion County**

Built in 1929, the Bown-Corby School is an excellent example of Late Gothic Revival architecture, which emerged as a popular style for schools in the period following World War I. The building has red brick walls with ashlar limestone detailing, projecting bays, buttresses, and quoined stone surrounds, all typical of the architectural style. It retains the original wood and steel windows, which is unusual for a public school building of this age. The building was designed by Wichita-based architect S. S. Voigt and served as the town's grade school for 62 years, closing in 1992. It was named in honor of Anna Bown and Jenny Corby, two long-time teachers in the Marion school district. It is nominated as part of the *Historic Public Schools of*

Kansas multiple property nomination for its local significance in the areas of education and architecture.

**Hermit's Cave on Belfry Hill • Council Grove
Morris County**

Belfry Hill is a prominent landmark in the Neosho River valley that overlooks the surrounding community of Council Grove, which began as a Santa Fe Trail-era campsite along the river. Providing scenic views of the town, Belfry Hill is a tree-lined bluff with natural stone outcroppings that functions as a local park welcoming visitors. A portion of Belfry Hill was developed in 1901 as a natural and historical park, and it was further enhanced in 1921 as part of the centennial commemoration of the opening of the Santa Fe Trail. The area within the stone outcropping has long been interpreted by local historians as the place where Italian priest Giovanni Maria de Agostini lived for five months in 1863. Still today, the town's identity and heritage tourism are rooted in these early 20th century efforts to promote the area's frontier and trail-era history. This site is not nominated for association with the community's mid-19th century



Hermit Cave on Belfry Hill, Morris County.



Left, Fix Farmstead, Wabaunsee County.

history, but rather for its local significance as an early 20th century historical attraction.

**Fix Farmstead • 34554 Old K-10 Road • Volland vicinity
Wabaunsee County**

The Fix Farmstead is situated in a picturesque rural setting on a terrace above the West Branch of Mill Creek, less than a mile northeast of the unincorporated hamlet of Volland. The property is accessed by a long lane that extends from the gravel road. The farmstead is comprised of an impressive Italianate-style house, a tenant house, barn and granary, storage cellar, storm cellar, and garage. The German-American Fix family migrated to Wabaunsee County in 1860. Upon his return from service during the Civil War, John R. Fix married Rebecca Larch and settled on this land in Washington Township. The majority of extant farmstead features post-date 1880, likely representing the height of prosperity on the farm. It is nominated as part of the *Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas* multiple property nomination for its local significance in the areas of early settlement, agriculture, and architecture.

**Parsonian Hotel • 1725 Broadway Avenue
Parsons • Labette County**

In the heart of downtown Parsons, the Parsonian Hotel was constructed in 1954 and intended to provide accommodations for business travelers, to promote new commercial and industrial ventures, and to attract conventions to town. Construction of the building was financed primarily by the sale of stock to local residents who made up the ownership group. The building reflects the International architectural style, which was popular before and after World War II. The eight-story, concrete-frame building has a two-story base that covers the majority of the site, and a six-story hotel room tower set back from the edges of the base. The two-story base is constructed primarily of red brick, with aluminum windows and storefront, limestone accents below the storefront, concrete window-surrounds at the second story, and horizontal projecting concrete canopies. The tower is constructed of yellow-brick, concrete, and aluminum double-hung ribbon-windows. It is nominated for its local significance in the areas of commerce and architecture.

**Kansas Route 66 Historic District • SE 50th Road • Baxter
Springs • Cherokee County**

This segment of Route 66 north of Baxter Springs, totaling 2.1 miles, is located between the historic Brush Creek bridge on the north and Willow Creek on the south. The entire length of the historic Route 66 in Kansas totaled only 13.2 miles, entering Cherokee County near Galena and exiting south of Baxter Springs. Cherokee County opened bids for the construction of this portion of the road on March 12, 1923. This was part of a larger federal highway



Left to right, Parsonian Hotel, Labette County; Kansas Route 66 Historic District, Cherokee County.



Left, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Hodgeman County;
below, Girl Scout Little House, Clark County.

project between Joplin, Missouri, and Baxter Springs. The Federal Highway Commission designated Route 66 as part of a new national highway network on November 11, 1926. This section of road remained an integral part of Kansas Route 66 until a bypass was completed in the early 1960s. As a result, the road has largely served local traffic and tourists traveling the old route. The Kansas Department of Transportation designated this road a Kansas Historic Byway in 2011. It is nominated as part of the *Historic Resources of Route 66 in Kansas* multiple property nomination in the area of transportation.

**St. Mary's Catholic Church • 14920 SE 232 Road
Kinsley vicinity • Hodgeman County**

A group of Irish-born settlers erected St. Mary's Catholic Church in rural Hodgeman County in 1904. The parishioners had attended the German St. Joseph Catholic Church located five miles south, but in 1903 a dispute arose between the German and Irish members in regard to a proposed location for a new church building. The Irish members wished to have the new location two miles north, but an agreement could not be made. As a result, the congregation split. St. Mary's church suffered a devastating fire on January 1, 1928, leaving only the exterior walls to be salvaged. The parishioners hired builder Joseph Sebacher to rebuild the church with plans drafted by Emporia-based architects Henry W. Brinkman and Stanley Hagan. This same team had just completed a new building for St. Joseph in nearby Offerle. St. Mary's church closed its doors in 1997. The small church features a stone exterior, Gothic-arch windows, a red tile gable roof, and a center bell tower. It is nominated for its local significance in the area of architecture.

**Girl Scout Little House • 448 West 6th Avenue
Ashland • Clark County**

The Girl Scout Little House in Ashland was built in 1937 by laborers employed through the Works Progress Administration (WPA), with Ed Burr serving as the project supervisor. The Little House was built to serve the Ashland Girl Scout troop, which formed in 1924, 12 years after Juliette Gordon Low established the first American Girl Scout troop in Savannah, Georgia. It was erected in a residential neighborhood on land donated by Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Nunemacher. The local Girl Scout building committee raised funds to complete the project from individuals, businesses, churches, and community groups. The small stone building was dedicated to the community in February 1938, and it has served the Girl Scouts and the Ashland community ever since. The small building is made of locally quarried stone and exhibits the Rustic style typical of New Deal-era buildings. It is nominated as part of the *New Deal-Era Resources of Kansas* multiple property nomination for its local significance in the areas of social history, government, and architecture.





Strother Field Tetrahedron Wind Indicator, Cowley County.

Strother Field Tetrahedron Wind Indicator Strother Field, Winfield, Cowley County

This tetrahedron wind indicator once functioned as a part of the World War II-era Strother Army Air Field in its role in the Battle of Kansas, a highly significant effort to train pilots and test, build, and deliver airplanes to the Pacific front during World War II. Strother Field is centrally located between Winfield and Arkansas City in Cowley County and was named for Captain Donald Root Strother, the first Cowley County pilot killed in World War II over Java. The field was built in 1942 with four runways: two parallel runways with a north-south orientation and two perpendicular crosswind runways in a northeast-southwest orientation. The wind indicator, which alerted pilots to wind direction to aid in landing aircraft, is centered midfield in its original location. It is a three-dimensional triangular object measuring approximately 27 feet long, 15 feet wide, and 15 feet tall. The exterior is galvanized tin with lights along the edges. Just five World War II-era tetrahedron wind indicators are known to exist at former Kansas airfields. It is nominated as part of the *World War II-era Aviation-Related Facilities of Kansas* multiple property nomination in the areas of military and engineering.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

The National Register of Historic Places is the country's official list of historically significant properties. Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources.

Eligible properties must be significant for one or more of the four criteria for evaluation. Properties can be eligible if they are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. They can be eligible if they are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. Distinctive construction can qualify properties for the National Register if they embody the characteristic of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. Lastly, 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.

The Register of Historic Kansas Places is our state's official list of historically significant properties. Properties included in the National Register are automatically listed in the state register. However, not all properties listed in the state register are included in the National Register. The same general criteria are used to assess the eligibility of a property for inclusion in the state register, but more flexibility is allowed in the interpretation of the criteria for eligibility.

Related Internet Links:

National Register of Historic Places: [nps.gov/nr](https://www.nps.gov/nr)

Kansas Historical Society (National and state registers):
[kshs.org/14638](https://www.kshs.org/14638)

DOUGLAS COUNTY HERITAGE SURVEY: *Interpreting a Rural Historic Landscape*

In 2014 consultants Dale Nimz and Susan Ford completed the historic resources survey of Wakarusa Township, the unincorporated rural area that surrounds the city of Lawrence. This third phase of the Douglas County Heritage Survey, which began in 2012, was an unusual opportunity to document the buildings and structures in a rural historic landscape that is undergoing rapid development and change. Survey is an essential step in preservation planning. One of the key elements of the proposed preservation plan element of Horizon 2020, the Lawrence/Douglas County comprehensive plan, is to “conserve the rural character of unincorporated Douglas County in strategic areas.”

by Dale Nimz
Preservation consultant



Left to right, Baldwin Barn, 1879; Baldwin Smokehouse; Baldwin Granary, circa 1887.

This article will describe the heritage survey, outline the development of agriculture, present examples of the survey findings, and summarize recommendations for preservation in rural Douglas County. The ongoing natural, cultural, and historic resources survey is administered by the Douglas County Heritage Conservation Council, a Certified Local Government. The 2014 survey project was funded by a Historic Preservation Fund grant from the Kansas Historic Preservation Office with matching funds and services from the Douglas County Commission. Besides historic preservation, the council has set broad goals for conservation. For example, the council has awarded a major grant for a 2015 Systematic Inventory for Natural Areas and Habitat in Douglas County to the Kansas Biological Survey.

With the inventories of historic resources as well as natural areas and habitat, the council will have a rich description, which can be used to interpret the rural landscape in new and innovative ways. In the survey of

Wakarusa Township carried out in 2013 and 2014, the consultants identified buildings and structures that appeared to be architecturally and historically significant in the history and development of the township, including both representative and outstanding examples of the building forms, types, and styles present. The consultants



Eben Baldwin House, 1903.

also were directed to be aware of natural resources such as woodlands, intact prairie, wildlife habitat, viewsapes, and waterways and their influence on cultural development, but were not required to survey these natural resources.

The 2013 historic resources survey focused on the eastern area of the township and the 2014 survey completed the southwest and northwest areas of the township. Reconnaissance survey inventories were entered in the Kansas Historic Resources Inventory, khri.org, for a total of 113 properties and 381 buildings and structures in Wakarusa Township. In 2014 the consultants also compiled more detailed descriptions, histories, and arguments for significance for 19 intensive inventories of potentially significant properties selected from the 2013 reconnaissance survey.



Left to right, Brownlee House, circa 1890; Brownlee Barn, circa 1890.

Why invest in a county-wide survey and what do the findings mean? Changing land use often leads to the neglect and destruction of historic buildings and structures. Agricultural buildings that are not suitable for contemporary production may be replaced and farmsteads may be altered to make way for exurban residences and supporting structures. Yet many of these buildings are still valuable if they can be adapted for contemporary uses. And these buildings are significant not just for their utility. In the heritage survey, the resources inventoried reflect the development of agriculture and rural communities in Douglas County. Despite the random and sometimes inexplicable process of preservation, the buildings and farmsteads extant are a tangible record of the county's agricultural heritage—a heritage that was not well recorded in historical descriptions, photographs, and other documentary evidence.

Wakarusa Township, which surrounds the expanding city of Lawrence, can be interpreted as a rural historic landscape that has changed dramatically since 1945.

A rural historic landscape is “a geographical area that historically has been used by people, or shaped or modified by human activity, occupancy, or intervention, and that possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of areas of land use, vegetation, buildings and structures, roads and waterways, and natural features.” Different parts of Wakarusa Township can be viewed as smaller components with distinctive geographical features within the overall landscape. The contemporary landscape is characterized by the contrast between the expanding urban development of Lawrence, the proliferation of exurban residences for urban workers, and the consolidation of most family farms into fewer specialized agri-businesses.

In Wakarusa Township the rural historic landscape reflects the distinctive geography of the area as well as the



historical development by settlers, farmers, and rural residents. The township contains areas of river bottom land defined by the Kansas and Wakarusa Rivers as well as upland to the south with ridges and features such as Blue Mound. The Kansas River forms the northern boundary and the northeast and northwest parts of Wakarusa Township lie in its flood plain. The Wakarusa River flows through the center of the township until it turns northeast and empties into the Kansas River. Generally, the topography ranges from the lowlands of the Kansas River valley to upland prairie in the south.

Buildings and farmsteads that range in age from the territorial period to the post World War II period reflect the historical development of Wakarusa. Two towns, Franklin and Lawrence, were founded in the center of the township, but after the end of the Civil War, only Lawrence prospered. The Franklin site is now included in the city limits of Lawrence. As one of the earliest settled counties, agriculture was fully developed in Douglas County by the

end of the 1870s. From 1866 to 1878, the Kansas Board of Agriculture reported that agricultural production grew rapidly. The state climbed from 25th to fourth in corn production and from 24th to first in wheat production. Two major factors—railroad expansion and improvements in technology—contributed to this dramatic expansion.

The expansion of railroads in Douglas County provided access for transporting farm products to market and supported the intensive settlement of rural communities. The Santa Fe Railway built a line along the south bank of the Kansas River and the Leavenworth, Lawrence, and Galveston Railroad built south from the river through the center of the township and county. By the early 20th century, this line was incorporated into the Santa Fe system.

buildings. The first two decades of the 20th century were termed the “Golden Age of Agriculture.”

When Douglas County was described by historian Frank Blackmar in 1912, the principal crops were winter wheat, kafir corn, and hay, but the county also ranked high in the production of Irish potatoes, livestock, and there were more than 200,000 bearing fruit trees in the county, more than half of which were apple. During the early 20th century the size of farms increased and there were fewer farms. Improved technology allowed individual farmers to plant, cultivate, and harvest larger areas more quickly. After 1910 affordable tractors became available to small farmers. Between 1915 and 1920 the number of tractors in Kansas increased from 2,493 to more than 14,000. Another agricultural trend evident in Douglas County was the



Left to right, William Meairs House, 1878; William Meairs Smokehouse, c. 1878.

After a drought and grasshopper plague devastated Kansas during the mid-1870s, agricultural leaders urged farmers to diversify. They argued that farmers should raise a variety of crops, some for their use at home and some for cash sale. With diversification, farm families would be more self-sufficient even if the corn or wheat crops failed. Although a detailed interpretation will require intensive research, it appears from the variety of farm buildings extant that many Douglas County farmers during the late 19th and early 20th century raised a variety of crops and livestock in addition to corn and wheat. The 1890s were a transition between agricultural expansion and adaptation to the agricultural marketplace. As farmers produced more, prices fell. Then, following these difficulties, Kansas farmers enjoyed a period of prosperity and relative stability. Rising grain prices allowed farmers to improve their standard of living and invest in machinery, improved houses, and farm

growth of the dairy industry. Because it was difficult to transport, milk had a limited market. With advances in refrigeration and transportation, dairy farming became industrialized by the 1920s. Mechanization made farmers more productive so fewer farmers were needed. By 1920 only 30 percent of Americans lived on farms.

Although there are a number of part-time farmers in Douglas County in 2014, there are only a few large commercial producers. In the 21st century the rural landscape is being changed by the suburban expansion of the city of Lawrence and extensive exurban development for rural subdivisions and homesites.

In the 2014 survey 10 houses and eight barns were evaluated as individually eligible for the National Register and 26 other buildings were evaluated as potentially contributing to National Register thematic or district nominations. Four farmsteads provide examples of

resources surveyed in the township—the William Meairs farm, the D. H. Wiggins farm, the Brownlee farm, and the Eben Baldwin farm. William (Billy) Meairs arrived in Douglas County as a territorial settler and the farm has been passed down in the family since that time. The stone Italianate style house and adjacent smokehouse on the farm were constructed in 1878.

More typical and well preserved examples of a farm house and barn are the D.H. Wiggins house and barn. The house is an upright and wing folk house type constructed about 1900 and the gable roof barn was constructed about 1910.

A different house and barn illustrate the range of style and type found in Wakarusa Township. The S. A. Brownlee house is a well preserved Queen Anne style residence



individual owners of National Register eligible properties. An interpretive bus tour of selected properties would provide public recognition and education about the agricultural heritage of Douglas County. Other public presentations could provide practical information about such topics as appropriate techniques for stone masonry, wooden windows, and delayed maintenance. The fundamental goal of public education would be to support the stewardship of rural historic properties. Ongoing educational programs are needed to help develop an informed constituency of property owners and others interested who could advocate for the long-term preservation of the rural historic landscape of Douglas County.



Left to right, D. H. Wiggins House, c. 1900; D. H. Wiggins Barn, c. 1910.

constructed about 1890 and the gambrel-roofed barn was constructed about the same time.

The Eben Baldwin farm is an authentic historic landmark in Wakarusa Township. Baldwin was a prominent settler who owned at least 800 acres, most in the Kansas River bottom land northwest of Lawrence. Baldwin was a grain farmer and stock grower who raised Galloway cattle and Clydesdale horses. The majestic stone barn was built in 1879 and the house, which replaced an earlier residence that burned, was constructed in 1903.

As these examples illustrate, the rural historic landscape of Wakarusa Township deserves recognition and protection. Based on the heritage survey findings, the consultants recommended further survey in Lecompton Township to the west. Another recommendation is to coordinate the heritage grant program with the maintenance needs of significant historic properties and the nomination goals of

*As these examples illustrate,
the rural historic landscape
of Wakarusa Township
deserves recognition
and protection.*

A Survey of Historic Resources in Wichita's South Central Neighborhood, Area II

The 2014 survey of South Central Neighborhood, Area II, in Wichita was conducted in accordance with the Wichita Historic Preservation Plan of 2001 and seeks to address plan goal number two, "Complete a reconnaissance survey of the 1919 city limits" with the objective to document structures in that area and identify those with historical significance. The Wichita-Sedgwick County Planning Department received a 2014 Historic Preservation Fund grant to do the study, updating the directive that it be performed at intensive level. Data collected will add to eight previous surveys throughout the city, all of which provide information that can guide rehabilitation and re-use of properties.

by **Barbara Hammond**
Preservation consultant

The south central survey area two is located one mile south of Wichita's business district between Morris and Bayley Streets, and bounded east/west by railroad tracks and the Arkansas River. The survey produced 274 inventory forms that included dwellings—both single and multiple—and non-dwelling buildings. Along Broadway there are 14 buildings including a motel, a mortuary, Fire Station Number 2, a large church, and two used car lots. Eight buildings associated with warehouse complexes are located on Santa Fe Avenue near the railroad tracks. Other than that, survey area two is principally residential, and attention here is on single dwellings, pattern book houses, and identification of properties associated with this context. The period of significance for this survey is 1880-1964 and 22 buildings were found to be potentially eligible for individual listing in a historic register under Criterion C. However there are not enough intact, contiguous buildings to nominate any historic districts. In spite of several blocks of residences that are supported by historic context, the high incidence of secondary siding (78 percent) prevented this group from qualifying as contributing structures in a district.



Top to bottom, 1212 S Waco; 11055 Water

Although no historic district could be drawn, there are interesting examples of domestic architecture that demonstrate that this is a neighborhood of pattern book houses. The south central area two study underscores this with references from Daniel D. Reiff's book, *Houses from Books* (2000). Reiff finds extensive evidence that communities such as Wichita were built by local carpenter-contractors from published plans, illustrations, and patterns. Using Fredonia, New York, as a model, he asserts that smaller cities did not support many professional architects, with the result that residential construction relied heavily on pattern book designs. Of particular interest is the anecdote in which Reiff describes Benjamin Luke (1877-1956), who worked as a carpenter and



Left to right, 1101 S Emporia; 1109 S Main; 1116 S Wichita; 1144 S Water.

contractor in Fredonia in the early 20th century. Evidence of Luke's methods is found in interviews with Luke's daughter. Elizabeth Luke attested to the fact that her father's office contained pattern books that he might show to clients. However, she said, he also designed his own houses. By fortunate coincidence, the Wichita Historic Preservation Office has in its research files notes from an interview by staff members with Wanda Wilson Dunegan in 2009. Dunegan is the daughter of Marvin R. Wilson (1884-1968), a contractor who originally found work in Wichita as a streetcar operator, having built a house for his new bride on south Wichita Avenue. Opportunity knocked in 1927 when Wilson's father-in-law platted land on south Waco Avenue. John Holland recruited Marvin Wilson as general contractor for a series of speculative houses (extant). In a parallel incident to Reiff's interview with Benjamin Luke's daughter, Wanda Dunegan reported that her father, too, had drawn his own architectural plans, and that she had many of his drawings in her possession. She did not know how he learned to do this. Based on Reiff's extensive research, supposition would allow that as a carpenter Wilson began working with pattern book plans and after study and experience, was able to draw plans making changes for variety. This idea is illustrated by similarities in many of the bungalows that he built in survey area two.

In the survey area the residential architecture has remained significantly static and is not high-style. Rather, it reflects the middle-income options of the people who lived there. A small number of dwellings remain that were built in the 1880s and 1890s, and most represent house forms from the first half of 20th century when the area was developed to capacity. Because the neighborhood has not suffered a great loss of houses since then, those that were built in that time frame are extant; only three dwellings have been built since 1950.

There are many repetitions of the architectural styles in the neighborhood, particularly the ubiquitous one-story Queen Anne and Neoclassical cottages, and Gable Front houses with stylistic interpretations. Resemblances within each style strongly suggest the use of pattern book or contractor-drawn plans.

Information gained from this study will serve to expand the existing documentation of historic residential, civic/social, commercial, and industrial buildings of Wichita, particularly as a supplement to the multiple property documentation forms, *Residential Resources of Wichita, Sedgwick County Kansas, 1870-1957* and *Commercial and Industrial Resources, Wichita, Kansas 1872-1964*.



Left to right, 1256 Market; 1252 S Main; 1228 S Waco, 1226 S Main.

Young Buck and the Undeveloped Reach of Wildcat Creek

by Brad Logan
Kansas State University

Thousands of years before it was home to the modern people of Manhattan and the Wildcats of Kansas State University, Wildcat Creek linked communities of extended or nuclear families that were attracted by its rich resources. Those resources included a reliable source of water, arable land, abundant game, diverse wild plants, and good quality stone for tool-making. Late in the 19th century amateur archaeologist William Griffing recorded extensive evidence of early inhabitants along the creek, passing the information to Jacob V. Brower, who included a sketch map of Wildcat Creek valley in his publication, *Quivera* (1898). The map depicts locations of presumed lodge remains and ridge-top mounds. The former are now known primarily as the homes of families who lived there during the Late Prehistoric period (circa CE 1000-1400) and the latter as burial sites used by people of the Woodland period (circa CE 1-1000). Sadly, nearly all mounds in this region have since been vandalized, scarred by a tell-tale divot in the center that echoes non-professional excavation, and many of the house sites have been destroyed by cultivation and the growth of Manhattan.



Excavators expose blades at the Young Buck site; inset, artifacts from the Woodland Horizon found at Young Buck.

In 1937 excavations by archaeologists of the Smithsonian Institution under the direction of Waldo R. Wedel demonstrated that some of Griffing's putative lodge sites might hold preserved remains. At one such site they exposed the floor of a house with the remains of four interior supporting posts centered on a fireplace, a series of smaller posts around its perimeter, and five pits that served as food caches. Among the artifacts they recovered were pottery sherds, chipped stone tools (points, knives, celts, and scrapers), and ground stone implements, including a milling stone suggested to be evidence of the cultivation of domestic crops. These remains were defined as evidence of a theretofore unknown archeological culture now called the Smoky Hill phase of the Central Plains tradition (Late Prehistoric period). Wedel believed that "further work at this and related sites nearby ought to extend considerably the range of artifact types and other traits characteristic of the culture, and will thus make possible a much better cultural and chronological correlation with other prehistoric culture complexes of the region." Unfortunately, the site he investigated now lies under Seth Child road and an adjacent strip mall. Likewise most of the other house locations have been destroyed by cultivation and residential and commercial development. Thus it was with guarded hope that archeologists from Kansas State University (KSU) undertook excavations at a site along an as yet undeveloped reach of Wildcat Creek in 2013 and 2014.

We were implementing the recommendations of KSU archeologist Lauren W. Ritterbush, as part of the Manhattan Archaeological Survey completed for the city of Manhattan in 2009. Among the known sites recommended for National Register of Historic Places testing and evaluation was 14RY402. We named it Young Buck for the four-point deer we saw during a lunch break, ambling down the path we had made between excavation units at the site the previous autumn. The site had been surveyed in 1964 by Michael Stanislawski, the first archeologist on the faculty of KSU, and a few years later by a student from the University of Kansas. Though they had found pottery and chipped stone tools, recording the site with the Kansas Historical Society in 1968, no one had worked there since. The recommendation to evaluate the site stemmed from the fact that it appeared to have escaped major land modifications despite surrounding development (including a sewer line installed less than 100 meters from it in 2010) and that it appears to correlate with a lodge site on Brower's map.

The site occupies a terrace on the south side of the stream and lies on land owned by two different parties; that to the

north has been cultivated and the larger portion to the south is in woods. It is vulnerable not only to encroaching development but to flooding, recently exacerbated by urban expansion. Floods have increased erosion, exposing stone debris on the steep cut-bank at its western edge. These threats spurred our effort to recover as much information from the site as possible. We are particularly grateful to the landowners, Dave Dreiling and Robert and Linda Reffit, who endorse its listing in the National Register. Our work toward that goal has been supported by grants from the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) awarded by the Kansas Historical Society.

Wedel believed that "further work at this and related sites nearby ought to extend considerably the range of artifact types and other traits characteristic of the culture, and will thus make possible a much better cultural and chronological correlation with other prehistoric culture complexes of the region."

In November 2012 and April 2013 we conducted preliminary investigations and mapping of the Young Buck site. In many of the small screened shovel tests we found debris from the making of chipped stone tools. Especially abundant were blades, elongated flakes struck from a core of stone. These were commonly fashioned by Central Plains tradition peoples into end scrapers used to clean hides. Examples of such scrapers had been found by Stanislawski. Material from two of the small shovel tests helped us pinpoint an area where native peoples at this site made stone tools. One test contained 61 pieces of tool-making debris and the other just 10 meters from it held 253, an astonishing number from a relatively small test! Both were just a few steps from the cut-bank of Wildcat Creek, verifying that a rich part of the site is threatened by erosion. Our initial tests also revealed archeological remains over a much larger area than previously thought.

These early shovel tests sufficed to determine the horizontal extent of the site, but somewhat larger, controlled excavations were necessary to discern how deeply buried the preserved remains of human activities are and to gain more data about early human use of this location.

Moreover, these were needed to see if the deposits still had integrity, meaning that they were in their original stratigraphic context and had not been disturbed by any of the damage to the site over the past 700 to 1,000 years. This is necessary to determine if the potential still exists to gain significant information about the activities of its prehistoric occupants and to thus be eligible for National Register listing. These excavations were carried out in November 2013 with support from another HPF grant. Finally, the June 2014 Kansas Archaeological Field School, a research

Our first excavations at Young Buck were sufficient to nominate the site for the National Register, but those of the subsequent field school put frosting on the cake.

and educational program of KSU, provided the opportunity to expand our investigations. Although the field data from this past summer have not yet been fully analyzed, that recovered in 2013 has and provides ample evidence that the Young Buck site deserves nomination to the National Register. Those investigations recovered more than 1,800 artifacts, including an arrow point fragment, end scrapers, other chipped stone tools, a few animal bones (including deer), and sherds of relatively thin cord-roughened pottery like those found at the Griffing site by Wedel. Many blades, the blank type preferred for scrapers, were found as well, and all were made of local flint or chert like that found on a nearby upland ridge. Many (80) of the unused blades were recovered from a single 1 by 2 meter area excavated in November 2013. That this many useful blades were discarded in one area suggests that whoever made them, given easy access to a rich and handy source, could afford to be very selective of those kept for final shaping into scrapers.

Importantly, we found no evidence of site disturbance from plowing on the wooded portion of the site. That area does not appear to have ever been cleared for farming, which disturbs the context in which shallowly buried cultural remains were deposited. Had the site been plowed, evidence of occupation by people of the Central Plains tradition would lack stratigraphic integrity, reducing its research potential. While the northern part of the site, about 25 percent of its area, had been tilled it has long been out of production and may yet retain intact deposits.

Our first excavations at Young Buck were sufficient to nominate the site for the National Register, but those of the subsequent field school put frosting on the cake. The metaphor is not entirely apt unless one considers it an upside-down cake; we discovered evidence of an earlier, more deeply buried occupation by members of a different culture. During our previous excavations we had not found artifacts below 40 centimeters. However, elsewhere at the site students in the archaeological field school found artifacts buried 40 to 50 centimeters below the modern surface. Initially, we attributed these to the downward movement of artifacts through animal burrowing, but in two adjoining excavation units the number and size of artifacts suggested otherwise. On the final day of excavation, fulfilling Murphy's Law of Archaeology ("you always find something important on the last day"), a student digging in a third adjacent unit found a corner-notched projectile point at 46 centimeters deep.

Other points found at the site had been arrow tips. A student had found one a few days before at 20 centimeters in a unit dug in the previously tilled area where Stanislawsky had found a complete one during his survey. We had also found the base of an arrow point during the HPF project in the upper 10 centimeters of a unit, but the last day's find is different. Unlike the smaller, penetrating tip of an arrow, it is a dart point, the tip of a projectile that was launched with an atlatl or throwing stick. That means of propulsion, abandoned by the Late Prehistoric period in our region, had been preferred for thousands of years before. Thus, we knew that we had found a trace of earlier activity. Soon after that find, another student found a complete knife and a few sherds of pottery, as well as large flakes and other chipped stone debris. The pottery differs distinctively from that of the Central Plains tradition. It is thicker and its exterior surface had been smoothed rather than roughened with a cord-wrapped paddle. Such ceramic ware is characteristic of the Woodland period, sites of which have been recorded along Wildcat Creek. One of them, Don Wells (14RY404), was excavated by archaeologists from KSU under the direction of Patricia O'Brien in the early 1970s. It is less than a quarter of a mile from Young Buck.

Previous to these HPF-funded investigations, archaeologists had not found evidence of occupation by Woodland and Late Prehistoric people in the same location along Wildcat Creek in a relatively undisturbed stratigraphic context. The Young Buck site now offers archaeologists the opportunity to compare the adaptation of different

ceramic-age cultures in one spot. We can address questions about how they were similar or different in various aspects of their lifeways, such as their utilization of local resources. Did they differ in their use of readily available chert for making piercing, cutting, and scraping tools? Do ceramic remains show gradual or sudden change in how people of these cultures made and used vessels? Did their hunting practices differ with regard to various animals, that is, did they prefer certain species over others? Does bone preservation differ between the two stratigraphic levels, and if so, how do we account for that? To what extent was agriculture important

in their subsistence practices? If these people differed significantly in these regards, to what factor or combination of them can we attribute the difference? Did local resources change or was culture change independent of environmental circumstances? These and many other questions have been posed by archaeologists in the region before, but rarely do we have the chance to try to answer them at one site. Young Buck gives us that chance, unless the continued growth of Manhattan along the undeveloped reach of Wildcat Creek takes it from us.

2015 Kansas Certified Local Government Training



In Kansas 17 cities and counties operate preservation programs acknowledged by the National Park Service as Certified Local Governments (CLG). That certification means they have established a local preservation ordinance; they maintain an active preservation commission; and they work to identify, designate, and protect historic resources in their communities. It takes a hard-working, dedicated preservation commission and staff to maintain a vibrant local preservation program. Continuing education and training are vital to their success. Toward the goal of supporting all the CLG staff and preservation commissioners in the state, the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is pleased to announce a special opportunity for continued learning.

Qualified preservation professionals from various backgrounds and locations across the country will present a one-day Commission Assistance Mentoring Program (CAMP) for CLG staff and local preservation commissioners on Friday, August 28, 2015 at the Kansas Historical Society in Topeka. CAMP is a signature training offered by the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC) using hands-on exercises, group discussions, and mentoring. The training planned for this year's CAMP will focus on the legal basics of preservation, standards and guidelines used for design review, tips for building public support, preservation planning and local incentives, and a hands-on design review exercise.

It takes a hard-working, dedicated preservation commission and staff to maintain a vibrant local preservation program.

Look for more details and registration information coming soon. Please contact Katrina Ringler, CLG coordinator, with any questions at 785-272-8681, ext. 215; kringler@kshs.org.



Archeology Certification Seminar Students Get a Different Perspective on History

by Virginia A. Wulfkuhle
Public archeologist, Kansas Historical Society

As the public archeologist at the Kansas Historical Society (KSHS), I am privileged to work closely with the Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA). For 40 years the KAA has partnered with the KSHS on the Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP). Each year KAA members provide the primary portion of the volunteer workforce for the field school. This knowledgeable group of individuals is dedicated and experienced. They work alongside professional archeologists in the field and in the artifact processing lab. Last year 161 KATP participants contributed 5,645 hours to the field school in Miami County.

Many KAA members choose to enroll in intensive courses, taught by professionals and coordinated and certified by KSHS staff, to learn archeological methods. Their 11th annual certification seminar was held in McPherson on February 21-22, 2015. Thirty-three KAA members took Historical Archeology, which is a core course in the KAA certification program. The intensive course was taught by Andrew P. Wilkins, an archeologist with Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. in Kansas City, Missouri. The class provided an overview of the field of historical archeology. Topics included the history of the field, method, theory, artifacts, and current topics in research. Hands-on exercises allowed students to practice the newly introduced principles.

KAA certification has been a key part of the Kansas Archeology Training Program from its inception in 1974. Enrollment in this internal education and recognition system is not required for KAA members. Seven certification categories—Basic Surveyor, Advanced Surveyor, Basic Crew Member, Advanced Crew Member, Basic Lab Technician, Advanced Lab Technician, and Outreach Specialist—



Jann Rudkin, Denver, Colorado, studies a sherd of Delft ware, while Pat and Emmett Bauer, Lindsborg, take notes on other ceramic specimens.

require some formal classes and other requirements specific to each. Classes, most combining lecture and hands-on components, are taught during the field school simply for the information or for college credit, which is especially helpful for college students and teachers who need college credit for recertification. In 2005 two-day KAA certification seminars, usually in February, were instituted to provide another opportunity for advancement through the certification program, although KAA members need not be enrolled in certification to attend. Eight core classes are offered in rotation, and an interesting array of 20 or more elective courses supplement them. Although

attendance at some KATP events is mandatory, the certification program also involves considerable individual work, which broadens amateur horizons.

A one-time fee of \$10 is the only charge to enroll in any or all of the categories, insuring that the program is accessible to all who want to participate. A total of 386 KAA members have participated in the program since its inception.

For more information about the annual Kansas Archeology Training Program, contact me at 785-272-8681, ext. 266; vwulfkuhle@kshs.org, or visit kshs.org/14623.



Left, Rose Marie Wallen and Beth Olson, Lindsborg, puzzle out a stratigraphy exercise; below, instructor Andrew Wilkins explains fine points of ceramic classification to Nancy Arendt, Deb Calhoun, and Vita Tucker.



MASONRY RESTORATION AT Cottonwood Ranch



The house at Cottonwood Ranch is single story and U-shaped built in three stages beginning in 1885. The exterior walls of the house are made up of two wythes (two units of width) of locally quarried limestone laid in both random rubble and coursed work. Smoky Hill chalk of the Niobrara formation in shades of pink and yellow are utilized for the quoins at the building corners as well as for the stones outlining the door and window openings.

Above, Cottonwood Ranch in Studley is open for tours May through September, exterior self-guided tours available year-round; left: John Fenton Pratt built the ranch where he raised sheep.



The exterior wythe of the west elevation wall had separated and was no longer bonded to the interior wythe of stone. The exterior stones were bulging out 6 inches in some areas and the mortar joints had cracked and stones were coming loose. The contractor carefully removed the exterior

stones, numbering them and laying them down on a tarp sketched to mirror the positioning of the stones on the wall. Old mortar was removed and the stones cleaned, then the exterior wythe was rebuilt with the existing stones and new mortar using native sand to match the historic appearance.



Cottonwood Ranch State Historic Site • Studley

The Pratt family established a ranch on the high plains in the late 19th century. Here they raised more than 1,500 Merino sheep. John Fenton Pratt was a photographer who captured images of life on the ranch and in the region. Many of these photographs are preserved among the collections of the Kansas Historical Society and can be seen in the online digital archives, kansasmemory.org.

In 1982 the state of Kansas purchased approximately 23 acres of the original Pratt ranch. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1983, nominated for its association with the settlement of western Kansas and for its architecture. The Kansas Historic Society operates the site in partnership with the Friends of Cottonwood Ranch.

Visitors will see interpretive signs related to the architecture and the history of this ranch. Exterior exhibits are open daily dawn until dusk. Interior tours are available May – September: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thursday - Saturday (closed 12 - 1 p.m.) The site is located at 14432 E. U.S. 24 in Studley. For more information 785-272-8681, ext. 211; cottonwood@kshs.org.



New Staff Member

Sarah B. Hunter joined the Cultural Resources Division in February 2015 as the review and compliance coordinator for the State Historic Preservation Office. She received a master's degree in historic preservation from the University of Texas (UT) at Austin with a concentration in materials conservation. Her thesis research was a materials investigation of early concrete technology used in Seguin, Texas, during the mid-19th century. She worked in collaboration with UT Landmarks and the UT Architectural Conservation Laboratory to conduct an evaluation of graffiti control treatments. Prior to graduation, Sarah completed an internship in materials conservation at the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training.

Sarah is an active member of the Association for Preservation Technology and the American Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works and has presented original research at annual and regional meetings. She holds a bachelor's degree in history with a minor in art history from Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia. Her other interests include volunteering with local animal shelters and rescue groups, running, restoring furniture, and traveling the backroads of the United States.



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
J. Eric Engstrom, Wichita, governor's designee
Toni Stewart, Topeka
Sharron Hamilton, Salina
Kathy Herzog, Lawrence
John W. Hoopes, Lawrence
Joseph Johnson, Wichita
Samuel Passer, Wichita
David H. Sachs, Manhattan
Gregory Schneider, Topeka
Margaret Wood, Topeka

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Happenings in Kansas

Online at kshs.org/events

May 22

Heritage Trust Fund workshop • Wichita

May 29-30

Art in the Garden • Red Rocks, Emporia

June 5

John Knifechief, Mountain Man Rendezvous • Pawnee Indian Museum, Republic

June 5, July 10, August 14

Sundown Film Festival • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

June 5-20

Kansas Archeology Training Program • Ellis County

June 20

Territorial Days • Constitution Hall, Lecompton

June 25

Heritage Trust Fund workshop • Santa Fe Depot, Dodge City

July 22

Heritage Trust Fund workshop • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

July 25

West Fest: National Day of the Cowboy • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

July 29-31

Archaeology in the Classroom • Overland Park

August 8 – Historic Sites Board of Review • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

August 28 – CAMP (Commission Assistance Mentoring Program) • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka



Find the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office on Facebook and follow the Kansas Historical Society on Twitter.

Join the Preserving Kansas listserv under Preserve at kshs.org.