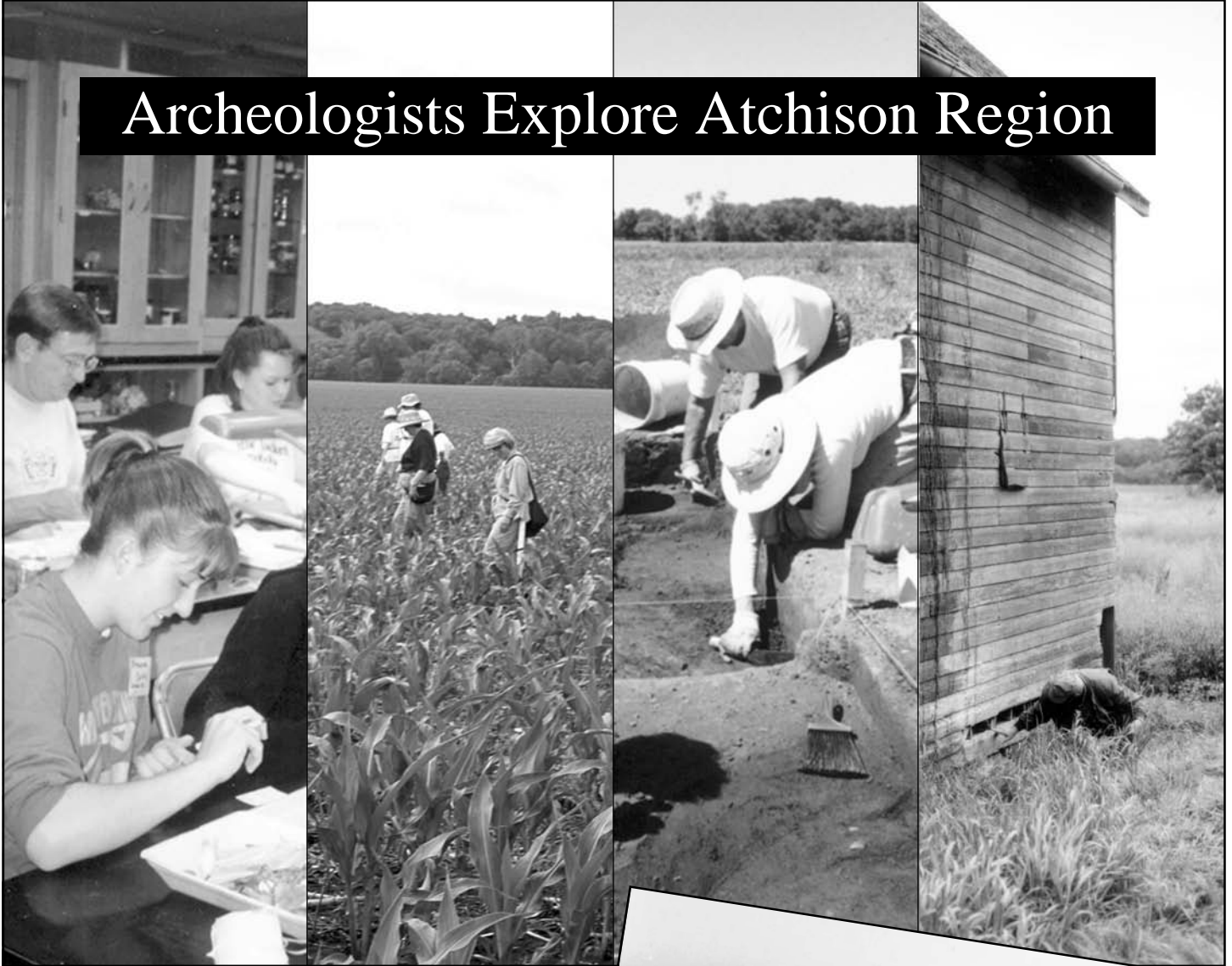


Kansas Preservation

Newsletter of the Cultural Resources Division • Kansas State Historical Society

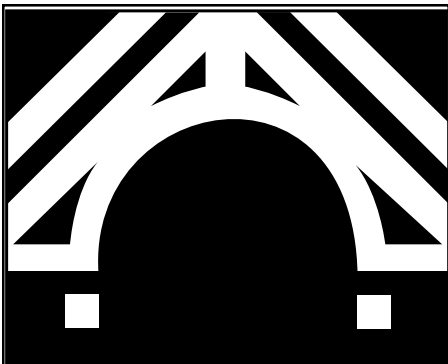
Archeologists Explore Atchison Region



For sixteen days in June, 154 professional and avocational archeologists scoured portions of Atchison and Doniphan Counties, registering seventy new sites and processing countless artifacts.

Coverage on pages 1-12





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Atchison
2001

KANSAS

ARCHEOLOGY

Training Program

June 2-17, 2001

Kudos to All!

The 2001 Kansas Archeology Training Program field school was a logistically complex project three years in the making. Discussions began in summer 1998 when Bob Thompson submitted a written proposal to the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) and the Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA), sponsors of the training program since 1975. Thompson, an Atchison resident and long-time active member of KAA, has recorded numerous sites in the Deer and Independence Creek valleys and in 1993 and 1997 published results of his survey work in *The Kansas Anthropologist*, the journal of the KAA. Thompson and other members of the Kanza Chapter of the KAA worked tirelessly prior to and throughout the project to gain permission from landowners for the archeological activities, arrange for facilities, and boost publicity. A third co-sponsor of the 2001 KATP field school, the Atchison Lewis and Clark Planning Committee, as well as the Atchison County Historical Society and Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce, provided substantial assistance with programs and promotion.

The KSHS archeologists implemented research design and coordination. KSHS Public Archeologist Virginia Wulfkuhle coordinated all work assignments. State Archeologist Bob Hoard and other KSHS archeologists Will Banks, Tod Bevitt, Martin Stein, Randy Thies, Tim Weston, and Wulfkuhle supervised field crews. A number of experienced KAA members assisted these professionals as crew foremen. This year three other professional archeologists volunteered their time to assist: Jim Feagins, contract archeologist associated with the St. Joseph Museum; Dr. Brad Logan, Senior Curator from the University of Kansas Museum of Anthropology; and Bert Wetherill, private archeological contractor from Overland Park.

We apologize to our readers for the technical problems that occurred in the May-June 2001 issue of Kansas Preservation. Many of the photographs in the article entitled "Sherman County Ranch Added to National Register" were unrecognizable because of these problems. We extend our most profound apologies to Diana Flanders, who had provided the historical information and the photographs for that article. Pages 13-16 of this issue feature a slightly revised four-page version of the article and all of the photographs.



(Above) Survey crews systematically covered large areas of land in various topographic situations. (Photograph by Craig Cooper, KSHS.)

(Top Right) KSHS archeologist Will Banks (left) examines a find from the screen of Bob Thompson (right) at 14AT438, a site that Thompson has monitored for about ten years and recommended for test excavation. (Photograph by Chris Taylor, courtesy of the Atchison County Historical Society.)

(Right) A small crew opened eight 1 x 1-meter units at 14AT438. None were excavated deeper than 50 centimeters. Freda Thompson of Atchison measures while Dusti Slocum of Topeka records a notable artifact in their excavation unit. (Photograph by Chris Taylor, courtesy of the Atchison County Historical Society.)



Kansas Archeological Training Program 2001

New Meaning for a “River Walk”

Professional and avocational archeologists gathered in Atchison June 2-17 to investigate sites in Atchison and Doniphan counties for the Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school. During the field school 154 people participated, some for as little as a day, while numerous attendees were there for the entire sixteen days. Instead of a large excavation in one spot, participants were divided into survey crews and test excavation crews.

The surveyors walked cultivated fields and pastures, looking for previously unrecorded sites or refining the limits of known sites. The test excavators

also dug test squares at selected known sites to see if features, such as storage pits and house floors, remained intact below the plow zone.

Before the project began, archeologists expected to find both prehistoric and historic sites. Prehistoric sites most likely to be encountered in northeastern Kansas are those dating from the Village Gardener period (A.D. 1000 to 1500, Pomona variant and Nebraska phase), the Woodland period (A.D. 1 to 1000), and the Archaic period (7000 B.C. to A.D. 1). Kansas City Hopewell sites of the Woodland period would be a possibility, since numerous such sites have been found in neighboring Missouri.

The most likely historic sites are early farmsteads and town sites. Other possibilities include French sites, Kansa Indian villages, and Lewis and Clark campsites. Since French trading posts

existed in the Leavenworth and St. Joseph areas, some French sites were probably scattered throughout the region. The Kansa lived along the Missouri River for about 100 years before moving to the Manhattan area. The remains of Kansa habitation sites were documented by Lewis and Clark in 1804 and Joseph N. Nicollet in 1839. The French explorer Etienne Vernaird de Bourgmont may have seen a Kansa village in 1724. Archeologists have found Kansa remains at the Fanning site (14DP1) and Doniphan site (14DP2) in Doniphan County. The chances of finding any archeological evidence of Lewis and Clark were slim, since the Corps of Discovery generally stayed only one or two nights at a campsite as it began the journey up the Missouri River.

Westerman Science Hall on the Benedictine College campus was the

This article was prepared by Mary Conrad, historian for the Kansas Anthropological Association. Mary is also a librarian at Sumner Academy in Kansas City, Kansas.



Rain days early in the project brought a crowd of workers into the artifact lab where significant progress was made on processing current and previously excavated collections.

KATP headquarters. On June 2 more than eighty people eagerly listened to Randy Thies present details that would help them locate artifacts and sites. Every morning thereafter Thies repeated the one-hour orientation about this KATP project and past archeology of the area to each participant on the day of his or her arrival. After orientation Thies continued with a two-hour Principles of Archeology, a requirement for any first-time KATP participants.

Early each morning the volunteers met at Westerman Hall, where the field assignments were posted on the front door. They were lured by the four dozen doughnuts provided daily by Jim Huss, president of the Kanza Chapter of the KAA. After ascertaining placements, the field crews loaded up in designated vans. The vans returned to Atchison over the noon hour, so crew members could be exchanged for the afternoon shift.

“Underwater Archeology”

June 2001 turned out to be the wettest June on record in northeastern Kansas, with six inches of rain falling in three days during the first week. Jim Feagins quipped that his crew was practicing “underwater archeology.” Some places could not be investigated due to the muddy conditions.

Most crews were out of the field for three days during the first week and for one and a half days during the second week. However, after hours of rain on the second day, one crew braved the mud

The 2001 KATP field school was a success. Archeologists know much more about the distribution of sites in Atchison and Doniphan counties, and the KATP participants have a broader understanding of the various methods employed to investigate cultural resources.

and returned to an old barn site (14AT458) to collect a bottle cache. By mid-afternoon the muddy crew members returned to the lab to wash the artifacts, and Dick Keck of Prairie Village committed to writing a report on the assemblage. (See page 7.)

Even though fieldwork had a slow start, a great deal was accomplished. During the first week Hoard’s crew surveyed over 120 acres. Although they found only two sites, all those hours of tramping across the landscape and looking without finding any artifacts on the

ground were not for naught. It is important for archeologists to know where sites do not exist, as well as where they are.

Fortunes improved for Hoard’s surveyors during the second week, when they located seventeen sites, five of which are historic. Three of the twelve prehistoric sites may date to the late Archaic period. One incident stands out as an example of just how churned up the archeological record can be in cultivated areas. One morning Hoard found half of a greenstone axe. That afternoon another crew member found the other half about 34 meters (111.5 feet) from where he had picked up the matching piece. This crew found the Archaic sites on the high ridges and ceramic sites in the lowlands.

In addition to the historic site with the old barn and bottles, Bevvit’s crew recorded ten prehistoric sites. They persevered through muddy shovel testing of a pasture near a trench silo in which a storage pit had been exposed. (In 1992 Thies and Thompson had recorded and salvaged this feature and identified remains of the Pomona culture.) One of the newly recorded sites was multicomponent, containing evidence of the Middle Ceramic Nebraska phase, a Woodland culture, and an Archaic culture. Most of the sites were scatters of chipped stone debris, so cultural affiliation could not be determined.

Thousands of Pink Flags

The crew headed by Feagins surveyed 100 acres on two farms. The volunteers placed thousands of pink plastic pin flags to mark where they saw artifacts on the ground surface. Using this technique, they were able to map the heaviest concentrations of artifacts. When looking at these flags, one farmer said his property was full of “pink butterflies.” The surveyors did not pick up all artifacts marked with flags but rather collected only a sample to show the types of stone resources and diagnostic artifacts (artifacts that are distinctive of a particular time period or culture).

The Feagins crew redefined the boundaries of one previously recorded site and found seven new sites. One had a light scatter of daub or lumps of low-fired ceramic with stick and grass impressions resulting from the burning of a structure that was all or partially plastered with mud or clay. Another site yielded a small tablet fragment made of what appeared to be Kansas pipestone. (See page 12.)

This crew found artifacts of both the Archaic Nebo Hill culture and another late Archaic culture. In addition, they

KATP Viewed from the Air



Aerial views show the beauty and complexity of the KATP field school survey area in the Deer and Independence Creek valleys.

For several years staff at the St. Joseph Museum, St. Joseph, Missouri, had discussed sponsoring an aerial photography project to document selected archeological sites along the Missouri River trench south of St. Joseph, Missouri. This project was conducted on June 15, 2001, coinciding with the Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school in the Atchison-Doniphan area of northeast Kansas.

Because the St. Joseph Museum curates artifact collections from many of the Missouri sites, the museum's aerial photo project focused primarily on selected known archeological sites in Platte and Buchanan Counties in Missouri; however, as a service to the KATP and to archeological research in general along this portion of the Missouri River valley, a number of sites in Doniphan and Atchison counties, Kansas, were also photographed.

The aerial photography project was a joint venture. The six-passenger Beechcraft airplane was furnished and piloted by Dr. Ron G.

Wade, vice president of the museum's trustees. The aviation fuel was furnished by the museum. Joint navigators and photographers for the project were Jim D. Feagins, archaeological research associate, and Rich Nolf, director of the museum.

Aerial photographs were taken of the old townsite of Doniphan and of the general area where a Kansa (Kaw) Indian village was visited by the French explorer Bourgmont in 1724. Lewis and Clark also noted this village, by then long abandoned, when they camped along the Missouri River near the mouth of Independence Creek in 1804. The exact location of this village has yet to be discovered.

Several important 700- to 1,000-year-old Nebraska phase sites and other older archeological sites and geomorphic settings in the Independence Creek and Deer Creek valleys were also documented.

Copies of the photos are available to the Kansas State Historical Society.

The article and photograph were provided by Jim D. Feagins, archaeology research associate, St. Joseph Museum.

located a Nebraska phase potsherd and a portion of a ceramic tab, an extension on top of the rim of a pot, which may have been a decoration or served as a flat handle. These tabs most often are found on Steed-Kisker sites, but since the temper is grit and not shell, the tab likely came from a Nebraska phase pot. (See page 9.)

Feagins handed off his crew to Tim Weston during the second week. The team concentrated on the Deer Creek valley and recorded eight sites, determined to be from late Archaic to Middle Ceramic in age.

During the first week Martin Stein and Virginia Wulfkuhle had hoped to find artifact concentrations that would keep

their crew busy with test excavations at the Doniphan townsite (14DP390). While historic items of the last 100 years were abundant, archeologists were most interested in locating remains of Indian sites. Over the years various individuals have interpreted some artifacts found in the vicinity as Kansa. While looking for evidence of the 1724 Kansa village east of Doniphan, the crew walked considerable distances and dug numerous shovel tests. None of the subsurface testing yielded Kansa artifacts, but three Nebraska phase sites were found.

Without areas for test excavation, Stein and Wulfkuhle found themselves heading a survey crew. After moving east to the hills, this crew found four

sites. The projectile points and potsherds indicated Nebraska phase affiliation. Most were small campsites or special use sites, but two were large campsites.

On mornings of the second week, Stein took his Archeological Site Survey class to the field. The class recorded one new site and defined the limits of two Doniphan County sites that had been discovered earlier.

Test excavators, and to some extent the surveyors, planned to look at a number of sites that originally were recorded by Bob Thompson. Four such sites were 14AT448, 14AT438, 14AT444, and 14AT445. For six days the test excavation crew directed by Will Banks walked about a quarter mile each morning and



Atchison residential and commercial neighborhoods offered abundant examples for Christy Davis' Historic Buildings Survey class. (Photograph by Chris Taylor, courtesy of the Atchison County Historical Society.)

afternoon into 14AT448, a promising Archaic period site. When the crew completed five 1 x 1-meter excavation units, Banks determined that the Archaic occupation was plowed out; that is, no subsurface features remained intact. During the second week Banks and his crew moved to 14AT438. Lots of daub and a few potsherds and stone tools were recovered. At first the excavators thought they had a house site, but they may have been digging only in the vicinity of such a lodge.

The Stein/Wulfskuhle crew tested 14AT444 and 14AT445, both Middle Ceramic-age sites. Eight 1 x 1-meter units were excavated at 14AT 444, and five at 14AT445. Like the other sites these proved to be lacking integrity, as plowing had churned up all the artifacts and no substantial evidence of undisturbed features could be found below the plow zone.

In the afternoons, Thies took a small group to investigate sites talked about by local informants. During the first week Paul Roberts guided them to sites around Denton, resulting in the documenting of ten new sites and checking of one recorded site. Seven of these yielded diagnostic projectile points and/or pottery. One Pomona ceramic sherd was recognized, and Thies also identified artifacts as Nebraska phase, late Woodland, and an early Woodland, represented by a probable Table Rock dart point.

During the second week, John Rush showed the crew around Fanning and Sparks, where they recorded nineteen new sites. Most of these were identified as Nebraska phase, although one Wood-

land site was seen eroding from a slope. Altogether Thies and his small team recorded twenty-nine new sites and checked on two recorded sites.

The field crews extensively covered the valleys of Deer and Independence Creeks, west and north of Atchison. The volunteers put in an estimated 3,160 hours walking over the ridges and hills and through the lowlands, as well as digging test squares. They recorded 70 new sites ranging from Archaic period Indian to Euro-American settler farmsteads; however, the Kansa sites remained elusive, as did Kansa-contemporaneous French sites.

Forced Inside

When the rains prevented work outside, many of the stranded field workers poured into the artifact processing lab set up in the Westerman Hall biology laboratory. The highest number of lab volunteers on any day was 54, not including the paid professionals who also became lab workers. Chris Garst supervised the artifact lab and Anita Frank handled records as they accumulated.

Washing, sorting, and cataloguing of the artifacts from Atchison and Doniphan counties took precedence and, except for those collected on the last two days of

fieldwork, all of the newly-found artifacts were processed.

In addition, unprocessed artifacts from previous KATP field schools were brought from Topeka as backup work. The collection from the C. F. Thompson site (14RC9) was completed, and significant progress was made on the Tobias site (14RC8) collection, with ten and a half boxes washed, ten sorted, and three catalogued. Both these Rice County sites are identified as Great Bend aspect or protohistoric Wichita Indian. These are the Indians who were in central Kansas at the time of the Spanish explorations. Lab workers also washed, sorted, and catalogued some historic artifacts from the Hollenberg Pony Express Station in Washington County. Lab volunteers logged 2,258 hours.

Not all field workers displaced by the rain joined the ranks of the lab workers. Many of them sat in on classes, another vital component of the KATP. On mornings of the first week, KSHS Preser-

vation Specialist Christy Davis taught Historic Building Survey. Following that class, Brad Logan taught Northeast Kansas Prehistory. During the second week Martin Stein taught Archeological Site Survey in the mornings, and Bert Wetherill taught Introduction to Lithic Identification Techniques in the afternoons. Besides work in the classroom, all

instructors took students into the field for hands-on experience. Classes were offered for college credit through Emporia State University. However, many people take them for the KAA certification program or simply for personal enrichment.

The 2001 KATP field school was a success. Archeologists know much more about the distribution of sites in Atchison and Doniphan counties, and the KATP participants have a broader understanding of the various methods employed to investigate cultural resources. The sponsors and volunteer workers now eagerly await the results of the in-depth analysis of the recovered artifacts and information. Dr. Brad Logan has been contracted to do this research, which will be supported by a grant from the Courtney S. Turner Charitable Trust to the KAA. When published, the report will help develop a more complete understanding of the archeology of northeast Kansas.

The volunteers put in an estimated 3,160 hours walking over the ridges and hills and through the lowlands, digging test squares, and recording 70 new sites.

A Community's Commitment & Involvement

An important purpose of the KATP field school is to develop a well-rounded understanding of the cultural heritage of the locale, both prehistoric and historic. A variety of evening programs are planned each year with this goal in mind.

Collectors Night is always one of the most popular evening events. This year that evening was expanded beyond the identification of archaeological finds to include household antiques. Six curators from the Kansas Museum of History and the KSHS Library/Archives Division joined the KSHS archeologists at the National Guard Armory in Atchison and more than seventy people from surrounding communities attended.

Progress of the field school work was summarized for participants and local residents at resumes on both Saturday evenings, one at a pot-luck supper at the Atchison Methodist Church and the other at an ice cream social at the Presbyterian Church.

The four evening tours were split between Atchison and Doniphan counties. On one evening numerous Atchison museums stayed open for KATP participants, and on another the Atchison Trolley gave a tour of historic spots throughout the city.

Bob Nourie, the owner of La Bonne Terre Vineyard at Doniphan, and Suzette McCord-Rogers, administrator of the Native American Heritage Museum State Historic Site at Highland, were the guides of a bus tour of Doniphan County ghost towns that once thrived along the Missouri River in the 1800s. USD 425 in Highland provided the bus and driver. Nourie also gave a tour of the Doniphan County Cemetery, telling of the many early personalities of Doniphan.

The KATP participants were treated to some excellent evening lectures.

Stephen J. Allie, director of the Frontier Army Museum at Ft. Leavenworth, and two models showed probable uniforms and equipment of the Corps of Discovery.

Carolyn O'Bagy Davis, an educator from Tucson, Arizona, described the life of Hattie Cosgrove, an Atchison native who became a Southwestern archeologist. Her presentation was courtesy of Atchison's Blish-Mize Company and the Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce.

Randy Thies presented a history of the Kansa Indians from their early time in Ohio to their present location in Oklahoma. His talk was offered through the Kansas Humanities Council and the Atchison County Historical Society.

Edmore Green, the NAGPRA representative for the Sac and Fox of Missouri in Kansas, gave a historical background of the Sac. The Native American Heritage Museum, Doniphan County Historical Society, and Kansa Chapter of KAA sponsored this event.

KSHS archeologist Randy Thies talks to a Collectors Night crowd about a collection of Native American stone artifacts. (Photograph by Craig Cooper, KSHS.)

Darrell Garwood from the KSHS Library/Archives Division gives advice to patrons about printed materials at Collectors Night. (Photograph by Craig Cooper, KSHS.)

Kansas Museum of History curators Rebecca Martin and Jill Brush examine a leather item brought in by local residents during Collectors Night. (Photograph by Chris Taylor, courtesy of the Atchison County Historical Society.)

Steve Allie's presentation, "Uniforms and Equipment of the Corps of Discovery, 1804," was illustrated with models wearing replica uniforms. (Photograph by Chris Taylor, courtesy of the Atchison County Historical Society.)



Bottles in a Barn



What at first glance appeared to be a pile of glass turned out to be numerous bottles falling out of the wall cavity of the barn where they had been stashed.

Archeology offers a glimpse into the everyday lives of our ancestors. During the 2001 Kansas Archeology Training Program field school this point was made crystal clear with the discovery of a cache of bottles in association with a farmstead that was being recorded near Atchison.

On the first day of the program, I was on an archeological site surveying crew that went to investigate a deteriorating barn. The structure proved to be a part of a nineteenth-century farmstead. The farmhouse once stood north of the barn but had been razed to provide more acreage for modern agriculture. The house location could be recognized by a scatter of ceramics, glass, and bits of brick in the plowed field north of the barn. There was evidence of other former structures and activities around the house and barn. Crew members completed the standard Kansas State Historical Society archeological site form. The site was designated as 14AT458.

At lunchtime the rest of the crew returned to town. Being on vacation and presented with the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful day, I decided to eat my lunch at the site. The crew would return

in the afternoon to survey the surrounding fields for possible prehistoric sites. After eating, I took a closer look at the barn itself. Peeking through the grass next to the north wall, I noticed a pile of glass. My first impression was that a bottle enthusiast had been collecting from the farmstead and this was the spot where he had culled his finds.

Closer examination revealed that this was not the case. The siding board just above the sill of the barn had come loose and bottles were falling out of the wall cavity. Three complete colorless bottles, two nearly complete bottles, and numerous sherds of broken glass were visible on the ground. In the wall cavity itself I could see two large square amber bottles and additional broken glass. This was a very exciting find.

When the crew returned, we all looked at the cache and decided to leave it in place until we could photograph the cache, document all the information, and collect the bottles and broken glass in a proper manner. We spent the afternoon surveying the adjacent fields, locating two prehistoric sites.

The next day we returned with cameras and collected the cache. Eight complete or nearly complete bottles were recovered along with sherds of eight more reconstructable bottles. In addition a few sherds, representing at least one more amber bottle and two more color-

less bottles, were recovered. We found an opening in the interior barn wall just below the loft joists where the bottles would have been deposited originally. This opening is just over seven feet above the sill plate where the bottles came to rest. It is a wonder that the bottles are not more broken than they are.

Examining the Bottles

All sixteen of the bottles are of the bitters or medicine type, manufactured by blowing molten glass into a two-piece mold, then applying and finishing the bottle top by hand. This was the common manufacturing method from the early 1800s until the early twentieth century, when the invention of the automatic bottle machine eliminated the need for the labor-intensive hand finishing. All the commercial bottle manufacturers quickly adopted the automatic bottle machine. Examination of the bottles from the cache revealed that all are cork stopper type bottles, manufactured between 1870 and 1903.

The largest are amber-colored bitters bottles, measuring $8\frac{3}{4}$ inches tall and $2\frac{5}{8}$ inches square. Of the four identical bottles one is complete, one is nearly complete, and two are reconstructable. These bottles are prominently embossed on one side with "Dr. J. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters" and lightly embossed with a two-digit number on the back side. The

This sample of complete bottles from the cache includes three different clear patent medicine bottles, an amber Dr. J. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters bottle, and three small amber bottles that may have been trial size patent medicine.

(Right) A KATP volunteer examines the curious find in the side of the abandoned barn.



bottles have an applied taper finish, with the mold seam going up to but not over the lip. Glue residue indicates that a paper label was used on the unembossed faces and around the neck. A similar bottle, recovered archeologically from Fort Union, New Mexico, was dated between 1865 and 1885. The Hostetter's company was in business from 1853 to 1958.

The smallest bottles are also amber, measuring just over 4 inches tall and 1¼ inch in diameter. There are four identical bottles: three complete and one nearly complete.

The base is embossed with "WB," with the leg of the "B" formed by the last leg of the "W." The mold seam stops half way up the finish. The former presence of paper labels is suggested by glue residue. While the original contents of the bottles is uncertain, it is known that patent medicine and bitters companies, including Hostetter's, offered sample or trial sizes of their products as part of their advertising.

There are four colorless prescription bottles, identified by their applied square lip finish. One is embossed with the apothecary symbol for ounce and "viii," indicating an eight-ounce bottle. This bottle has "CRYSTO" embossed on the base. It is 6¾ inches tall, and the base measures 2½ X 1½ inches. Another has the same apothecary symbol, followed by "xii." In addition, it displays ounce markings up the left side and metric

markings on the right side. (The metric system was authorized by Congress in 1866, but acceptance and use was limited to medicine and science until efforts in the 1960s broadened its use somewhat.)

This twelve-ounce bottle measures 8 inches tall and the base is 2¾ X 1¾ inches. The largest of this class is not embossed but does have a slightly indented panel on the front for a label. It measures 8¼ inches tall with a base of 3½ X 2 inches. The final unadorned prescription bottle is 7¼ inches tall with the base measuring 2 X 1¼ inches.

The applied double collar finish was often used for patent medicine

bottles. There are four examples of this bottle type. All are colorless, and none have any embossed words or maker's marks. Two are 6½ inches tall with base measurements of 2¾ X 1¼ inches. Another bottle, identical in style, measures 7¼ inches tall and 3 X 1¼ inches at the base. The fourth bottle has a prominent embossed panel on one face and measures 6¾ inches in height and 2½ X 1¼ inches at the base.

Were the Bottles Really Medicinal?

Many of the patent medicines contained alcohol and/or narcotics. These products may have made the patient feel better for a time but ran far short of their claims of being wonder cures for diseases ranging from the com-

To understand the appeal of patent medicines, note that Doniphan, Leavenworth, and Atchison Counties were overwhelmingly the biggest opponents to prohibition.

mon cold to tuberculosis. The federal legislation of the early twentieth century preventing manufacturers from making false claims about their products and requiring them to list the ingredients on the bottles, nearly destroyed the entire industry. Legislation also limited the alcohol content. The formula for Hostetter's Stomach Bitters fell from 47 percent to 26 percent alcohol, resulting in a dramatic drop in sales.

To understand the appeal of patent medicines, it might be helpful to note that Doniphan, Leavenworth, and Atchison Counties were overwhelmingly the biggest opponents to the 1880 prohibition amendment to the Kansas Constitution. While temperance statewide was popular, only one out of three voters in these counties cast their votes for prohibition; two-thirds voted against the amendment. Medicines were a more socially acceptable alternative to whiskey throughout the Victorian era.

The readers are free to write their own stories to explain why there were sixteen medicine and bitters bottles secreted in a barn wall for a hundred years. The point is that these bottles would be only broken glass or at best pretty specimens if not for the context from which they were recovered. Archeology is not artifacts but the story that they can tell.

A Perspective from Across the "Big Muddy"

*Brief and Informal
Observations on the
Archeology of the
Atchison and
Doniphan
County Area*



*By Jim D. Feagins, St. Joseph
Museum, St. Joseph, Missouri*



Jim Feagins has studied the Nebraska variant culture and its interaction with its Steed-Kisker phase neighbors on the eastern bank of the Missouri River. The recent KATP field school gave him the opportunity to compare sites on the Kansas side of the river.

As the pin flags marking artifact locations began to accumulate on the site's surface, my crew and I could easily discern the extent of the prehistoric occupation and the areas of denser artifact concentrations along the stream terrace. The 1,200 plus pin flags at this Atchison County, Kansas, site marked the spots where we had collected chert flakes, pottery sherds, scrapers, projectile points, and other prehistoric tools and decorative artifacts.

The artifact concentrations happened to correspond with areas where we were finding pieces of daub, marking the locations where houses had burned some 700 to 1,000 years ago. These houses

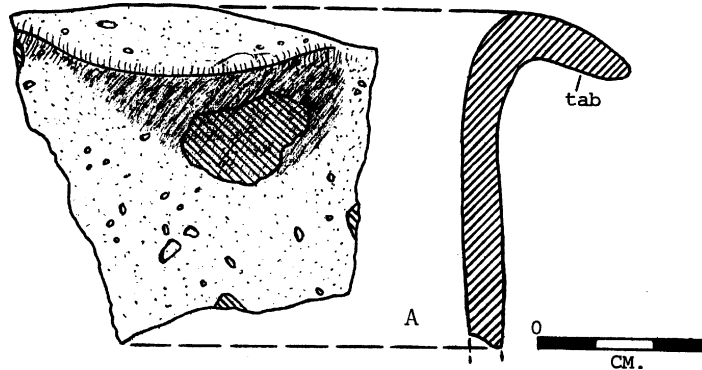
were framed with wooden poles and thatched with grass. At least a portion of these structures was plastered with mud. When the houses were accidentally (or perhaps in some cases intentionally) burned, the earthen plaster was fired and fragmented into many small pieces. These fired pieces, called daub, contain the impressions of the leaves and stems of grass from the thatching; a few, because of locations in which they were plastered, appear to indicate the presence of small support poles or cross bracing in the structure.

Thus, my Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) survey crew members were introduced to a Nebraska variant (phase) habitation site in northeastern Kansas. This archeological entity was identified and studied for a number of years in extreme eastern Nebraska and in the Glenwood area of Iowa. However, little is known about these people and their material cultural in the southern portion of the region they once occupied—the area generally northward along

the Missouri River trench from Atchison County, Kansas, and northern Platte County, Missouri. Smithsonian Institution archeologist Waldo R. Wedel excavated two of their houses at the Doniphan site north of Atchison over 60 years ago (Wedel 1959:105-107, 112-118, 128-130), but since then little has been written about the Nebraska variant in this area.

In 1988, after being introduced to a number of Nebraska variant sites in southern Buchanan and northern Platte counties in Missouri by the late R. B. Aker, a local collector and avocational archaeologist (see Feagins 1993 and Estep 1993), I became especially interested in this "cultural group" and its interaction with its generally contempora-

(Above) The Feagins crew on June 7, 2001: Charles and Laura Gann of Alma, Clarence Todd of Effingham, Jim Feagins, Leann Williams of Baldwin City, Betty Dudley of Lansing, Dorothy Davidson of Mont Ida, Jean Howell of Coats, and Vita Tucker (assistant to crew chief) of Burlingame. (Photograph by Craig Cooper, KSHS.)



Drawing of frontal view and cross section of pottery rim sherd with lip tab.
(Illustration by Jim D. Feagins, reproduced courtesy of St. Joseph Museum.)

neous Steed-Kisker phase neighbors to the south.

In this area south of St. Joseph, Missouri, pottery sherds produced by the Steed-Kisker (S-K) people are commonly found on Nebraska variant habitation sites (farmsteads and perhaps small hamlets); however, potsherds produced by the Nebraska variant people are rather uncommon on S-K sites even when located only a few miles from Nebraska variant sites. This observation is supported not only by my own intermittent fieldwork over the past thirteen years, but also is reflected in the Aker collection (now housed at the University of Kansas), in the private collections of avocational archeologists from St. Joseph, and in various small surface collections and the large Shippee collection at the St. Joseph Museum.

Pottery Reveals Clues

Another indication of this cultural interaction comes from the Atchison County site described in the opening of this article. While scouring the area, a member of our field school crew found a rim sherd with a tab. Tabs are flat, lobe-like extensions attached to the lip of a vessel. They are occasionally found on shell-tempered S-K vessels and on Mississippian-period pottery to the east.

Tabs could be considered as a type of lug (although they probably were not used to lift or support the vessel), distinguished by their flatness and presence only on the lips of pots. Vessel tabs from the S-K type site, 23PL13, have been illustrated by Wedel (1943:Plates 32-d, 42-a-b), Shippee (1972:Figures 4-w, 7-d, 10-e, h, 15-d), and Feagins (1991:Figure 1-a). The tab from this Atchison County site is grit tempered, not shell tempered as are the other identified tabs from the S-K type site. It should be pointed out that approximately 10 percent of the pot-

tery from the S-K type site is grit tempered. Was this Atchison County vessel made by the S-K people, or could it be part of a Nebraska variant imitation of a S-K vessel? Perhaps a detailed clay sourcing study would provide the information needed to answer that question.

The S-K pottery was often included as burial goods in the southern Nebraska variant interments, as reflected by the burial sites opened during the last 70 years by Aker and others in Platte,

Little is known about the Nebraska variant people and their material cultural in the southern portion of the region they once occupied.

Buchanan, and Andrew counties in Missouri (Feagins 1991a). It seems clear that the more decorative S-K pottery was quite valued by the southern Nebraska variant people—valued to the point that these vessels made up the vast majority of the pottery within the Nebraska burials in this local area. If we assume a trading relationship, we cannot help but wonder what types of goods were being traded for the S-K vessels; perhaps some type of perishable materials that are no longer reflected in the archeological record. Also S-K women living at Nebraska variant habitation sites (due to raiding or, much more likely, intermarriage) might continue to produce pottery in the manner that they learned as children. However, as would be expected, it appears that the farther north (even into Nebraska) the sites are located, the less S-K

pottery is present in Nebraska variant habitation sites.

From 23BN2, a large Nebraska variant site south of St. Joseph, Aker collected large sherds from two cord-marked, grit-tempered vessels in which the rims had been accidentally broken in prehistoric times and had been repaired with shell-tempered clay and refired. (Temper was added to the clay by the ancient potters in order to reduce the shrinking and cracking during the drying and firing of the containers.) This repair, made with clay containing a different temper, was somewhat carelessly smoothed along the rim. It appears to me that these Nebraska vessels had most likely been repaired by S-K potters. Were the individuals who repaired these vessels, S-K women living at a Nebraska variant site?

In addition to the interaction of these two cultural groups of people, my previous fieldwork focused on trying to determine the nature of the Nebraska variant sites themselves. Are there really three types of habitation sites in this area: isolated farmsteads, nucleated farmsteads, and small hamlets? I have already rejected the term “village,” at least in this area. The number and spacing of the houses (i.e., daub patches) could reflect a small hamlet but are not of a size to suggest villages, even if one would assume that all or most of the houses on a site are contemporaneous, which probably is not true.

Determining if they are or are not contemporaneous is the hard part. Since this research was conducted when free time was available and at my own expense, subsurface testing and dating of individual house locations were not practical. I simply attempted to obtain repeated controlled surface collections from individual house locations at a couple of the larger sites, as well as from some of the individual farmsteads.

Old Questions Answered, New Ones Arise

The sherd collections, which are of primary interest here, range from many hundreds of potsherds per daub patch to just a half dozen or so sherds from others. For the house locations in which there are sufficient amounts of pottery to give some statistical significance, the preliminary evidence suggests that there may be some differences in the percentages of shell-tempered sherds for different house locations within some of the larger sites.

Is this a reflection of time (thus giving insight about the contemporaneity of individual houses), or does it reflect other factors for which several additional hypotheses have been generated? At present there is just not enough supporting data to allow a significant reduction of the alternative hypotheses. As time permits (and there seems to be increasingly less and less time), I will continue to grapple with the problem. Simply stated, the types of habitation sites for these people in the Atchison-Doniphan area seem to be similar to those of their relations on the Missouri side.

For years there has been speculation that the same cultural groups should have been present along the Kansas side of the Missouri trench as were on the eastern side. Quite a number of prehistoric burial mounds and cemeteries, representing Late Archaic, Woodland, Nebraska, and S-K components, are present on the eastern bluffs overlooking the Missouri River flood plain (Wedel 1943; Nickels 1971; Shippee 1972; Feagins 1989, 1991a, 1992). Are they also relatively abundant in extreme northeast Kansas?

The KATP field school has enabled a number of questions to be answered while, as with most good research, it has generated others. My personal viewpoint on the western side is limited to the sites my crew found, the unwashed artifacts we collected, and the conversations with local collectors and with staff and field school participants. It appears that there are numerous Nebraska variant sites in this portion of Kansas. The sites are abundant on the stream terraces, as they are in Missouri. However, are the houses also occasionally located on the hilltops (crests of ridges) and the slopes overlooking the valleys, as they are in Missouri and in the Glenwood area of Iowa? I don't have that answer; perhaps some of the other crews found evidence of houses in those settings. Also, are some of the Nebraska variant habitation sites in Kansas actually small "hamlets"?

Based on the presence of S-K pottery on their sites in the Atchison-Doniphan area, there appears to be clear evidence of interaction between these two contemporaneous groups of people, and future research in this area will probably suggest interactions with additional groups. Since there are many Kansas City Hopewell sites east of the river—and there are already published references to sites in Wyandotte, Leavenworth, and northern Doniphan Counties in Kansas—one would also expect that the Hopewellian occupation would extend to the Atchison-Doniphan area as well. I did not observe any Kansas City Hopewell pottery sherds during our survey but did see a few at KATP Collectors Night. Across the river from the Atchison-Doniphan area, there are not as

Based on the presence of S-K pottery on their sites in the Atchison-Doniphan area, there appears to be clear evidence of interaction between these two contemporaneous groups of people, and future research in this area will probably suggest interactions with additional groups.

many Kansas City Hopewell sites as there are Nebraska variant sites; however, they are common.

The Doniphan site, 14DP2, near the old townsite of Doniphan, Kansas, contains an Oneota/Kansa component. This site is probably associated in some way with the undiscovered Kansa village location, described by Lewis and Clark in 1803 as being long abandoned. That village was visited by the French explorer Bourgmond in 1724. The only Oneota/Kansa village known in Missouri is the King Hill site, 23BN1, located in southern St. Joseph (Shippee 1967; Feagins 1994). While the two sites ap-

pear to be roughly contemporaneous, since the King Hill site is not mentioned by Bourgmond, it probably was abandoned by the time he arrived in the area.

A Closer Look at the Stream Terraces

The stream terraces in the smaller stream valleys, located on both sides of the Missouri River, seem to have been intact for a number of millennia. The find locations of at least some of the older points in the Deer Creek valley of Atchison County seem to indicate that they were eroding from along the terrace edges, which suggests that there may be good potential for the presence of buried components of at least Woodland and Archaic ages within the area's terraces.

I did notice the remnant of a quite old, high terrace (containing site 14AT444, which was tested during the KATP field school) near the bluff line. There are similar old terrace remnants on the Missouri side of the river, also containing archeological sites. Sometimes their back edges are slightly buried from years of slope wash from higher elevations. When this occurs, any cultural components that may be present are found at slightly deeper levels away from the terrace edges. There are also a few alluvial fans along the valley wall on the Missouri side. I did not notice any in the Atchison-Doniphan area, but I would expect this geomorphic feature to also be present. At least one of the alluvial fans in Buchanan County, Missouri, contains a shallowly buried Nebraska variant component (discovered in a water line trench); the potential for deeper components there is good.

The most commonly utilized chert for the manufacture of chipped-stone artifacts in this area, the Plattsmouth chert, is found on archeological sites on both sides of the river. This Pennsylvanian age chert is from the Plattsmouth (limestone) member of the Oread formation (Searight and Howe 1961:111-112). It is extensively mined as road gravel north of St. Joseph in Missouri (Searight and Howe 1961), and I noted that this was also true in the Atchison-Doniphan area of Kansas. In fact, when of sufficient size, many of the pieces of chert in the Plattsmouth road gravel could easily be misidentified as exhausted, randomly-flaked cores, if they were found out of context on the surface within a site. My crew and I soon learned to watch for these pseudo-artifacts in site areas adjacent to county roadways. KATP participants who were enrolled in the lithic



Feagins' crew found this unusually large piece of Kansas pipestone from a glacial till concentration on the north side of Deer Creek valley. (Photograph by Jim D. Feagins.)

identification techniques class collected Plattsmouth chert from local outcrops near Atchison (Bert Wetherill, personal communication).

The Ice Age Revisited

When driving down the road on the first day of the field school, I noted a distant concentration of rocks in a gently sloping field. I suggested to the crew that it might be the location of a farmstead. I was wrong. When we surveyed the field, the area proved to be a one-acre plus concentration of glacial till. It contained a mixture of ice-scoured and broken rocks of various types, ranging from small boulder to gravel and smaller size pieces, left behind thousands of years ago as the ice retreated northward.

When one of the crew, Shirley Roeckers, asked me about the glacial scour on a relatively soft red rock, I was delighted to discover a large piece of argillaceous siltstone, or possibly argillite (very similar rocks whose name depends on their degree of induration), that appeared to be an example of what archeologists commonly call "Kansas pipestone." On the alert for additional pieces, our crew found three other culturally unmodified examples from this area of glacial till.

Kansas pipestone was used by the later prehistoric inhabitants in the state to make a variety of decorative artifacts and, as the name implies, pipes. For years archeologists have speculated that the source of this material must be the glacial drifts. Now at last we had four

examples from a glacial source, that is, if my field identification is confirmed by future specialized laboratory tests.

A Great Experience

The above briefly and informally outlines some of my interests concerning the area's geology and archeology from an across-the-Missouri-River perspective. In spite of a perceived lack of time for me to participate in the KATP field school this summer, I am glad I did so. It provided an opportunity for me to briefly examine an area of considerable archeological interest and to work with some dedicated and wonderful people.

It is hard for me to imagine anyone having a more friendly, enthusiastic, and eager-to-learn group of individuals making up a crew. (However, knowing some of the people on the other crews, I suspect that their leaders probably felt as I did.) In spite of the twice-daily shuffle of crew members, the blend of personalities and the camaraderie were great! As planned, I had to return to work before the field school was over, and I must confess that there was more than a little reluctance on my part to leave the KATP participants and staff behind.

The joy of working with these people far outweighed the cold dorm showers and the dormitory keys being changed without giving residents the new keys (maybe they were trying to tell us something), but then those are other stories that have nothing to do with my archeological observations from across the "Big Muddy."

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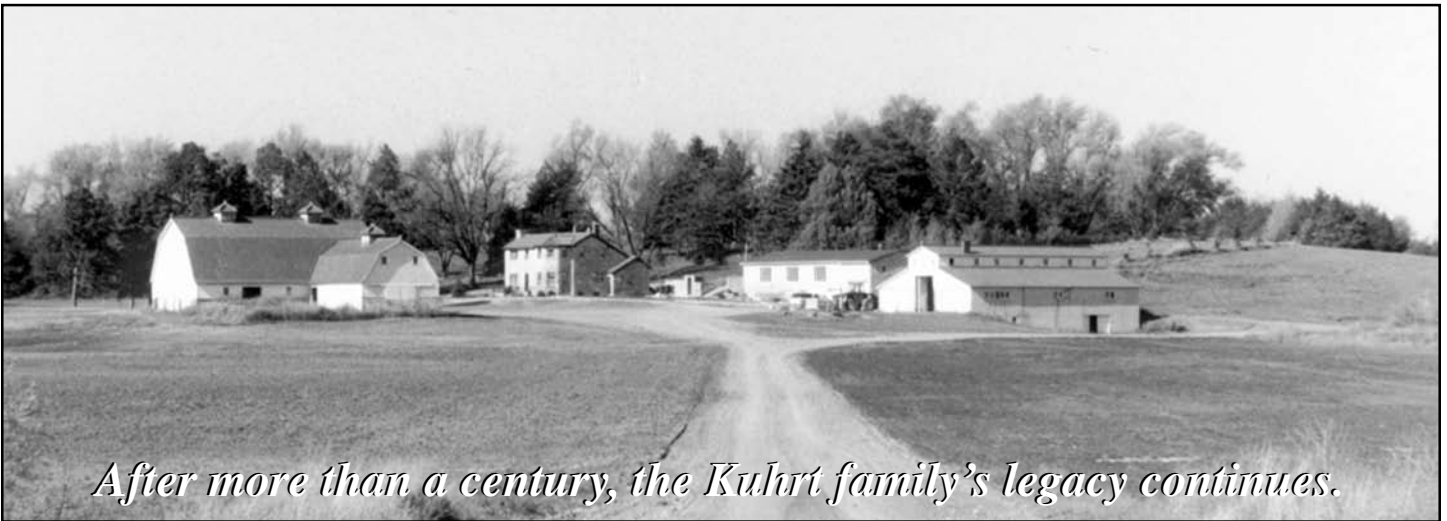
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Sherman County Ranch Added to National Register



(Left) The two-story limestone house is inspired by Spanish Colonial Revival architecture. The 1907 house was transformed into a new 1934 residence with the family doing the construction.

(Below) The Kuhrt Ranch Historic District is located in Shermanville Township, 12 miles north of Edson. The nomination is a contiguous 320-acre tract containing landscape, ranch buildings, and structures.



The Kuhrt Ranch Historic District, located near Edson in Sherman County, was recently listed on the National Register for its historical association with the Kuhrt family, a well known Sherman County ranching family, and for its architectural significance as a twentieth century ranch complex. The Kuhrt family acquired most of the 320 acres being nominated in 1891 and 1892.

The legacy of the Kuhrt Ranch began on June 7, 1892, when William Fredrick Kuhrt (1857-1917) and Pauline Kuhrt (1864-1937) purchased 80 acres of

Kansas farmland from a neighbor, Joseph Collier.

Kuhrt was born at Labis, Germany, and came to America as a young man. After living in several places, he settled in Sherman County in 1885, homesteading four miles south of the Colliers. On September 12, 1889, he married Pauline Haase. She was born at Arnsdorf, Germany, and came to America in 1888.

The Kuhrts lived in a sod house where their first son Eugene was born. Emilie and Paul followed. Gertrude was born in 1903. The children all attended Shermanville School District 29.

A Growing Ranch

The family worked on the farm and enjoyed seeing their venture increase and prosper. They sold poultry, eggs, milk, butter and garden produce within the Shermanville community. Being an industrious family, the Kuhrts built what they called a cave, using ice from Beaver Creek to refrigerate and store their dairy products and produce.

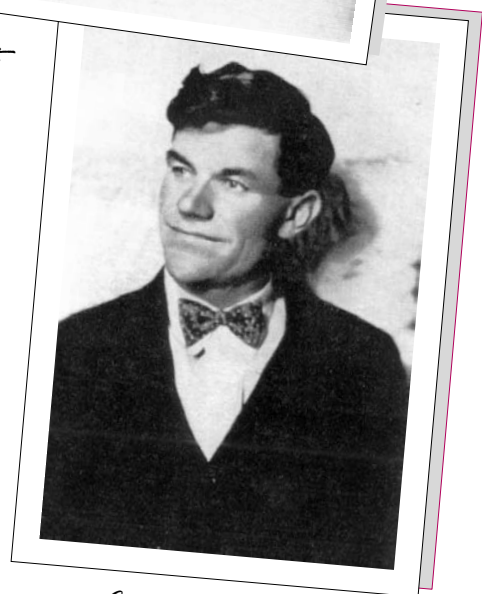
In 1904 the buildings on the ranch consisted of the Collier sod house, a sod house built by the Kuhrts, a barn with corrals, a shed and two windmills.



Paul Kuhrt 1897-1983



Family matriarch Pauline Kuhrt (1864-1937) with daughters Gertrude (1903-1957) and Emilie (1895-1976)



Eugene Kuhrt 1890-1958

Much information about the ranch comes from William Kuhrt's two account books, parts of which are written in German.

In a letter dated December 30, 1904, William Kuhrt writes, "I have raised crops every year except the year of 1894. For the past twelve years I have been actively engaged in diversified farming, stock raising, dairying and raising of garden truck. I usually have about three acres in garden and raise on an average of about \$500 worth of garden truck each year without irrigation. For the past four years I have milked on an average of fourteen head of cows, which has netted me over \$1,600 worth of butter. Last year from one hundred and twenty hens I sold over \$800 worth of eggs. This year my corn has made nearly thirty bushels per acre, and my barley thirty-one bushels. I now have eight hundred acres of deeded land, ninety head of cattle, ten head of horses, twenty head of hogs, with my place well improved, and all kinds of farm implements and don't owe a dollar. I believe this is the home of the poor man

and the opportunities for getting a start are much better at this time than when I came here."

In 1907, alfalfa was introduced to the valley and by 1911 the Kuhrt family made an increase of \$1000 from prairie and alfalfa hay and \$1000 for sales of alfalfa seed, besides keeping seed for next year's crop. The family continues to raise alfalfa today.

Also in 1907, William Kuhrt's father, Friedrich Kuhrt, came to Sherman County to build his son and family a house. The elder Kuhrt was a stonemason who had immigrated to Illinois.

Four years later, the ranch had grown to 1,280 acres of land with the addition of an elegant cement house, a reservoir and pumping station, and a young orchard. A 1912 picture shows the cement two-story home, both sod houses, three sheds and a barn. Two extant, contributing resources from this time period are the house and the barn, with major changes taking place to the barn in 1922 and to the house in 1934.

Grief Turns to Prosperity

William and Pauline Kuhrt were leaders in the community. They both were active in the Shermanville School Board and Cemetery Association. William also served as county commissioner.

The family was in shock when William died unexpectedly in May 1917. Pauline was faced with either leaving northwest Kansas or continuing to build the legacy that she and her husband had started.

The Kuhrts had six children, four of whom survived. Three of these children stayed at the ranch to help their mother: son Paul (1897-1983), son Eugene F. (1890-1958), and daughter Emilie (1895-1976). A younger daughter,



The Kuhrt family prided themselves on the breeding and feeding of shorthorn steers. The family was also active in 4-H and invited livestock judging teams to train at the ranch. These 1925 photos show the community involvement.

Gertrude (1903-1957), helped for some time on the ranch but unlike her siblings she soon married and bore one child, Jim Flanders (1935).

In a 1927 interview, Pauline said, “First thing after my husband died I went to find out whether I needed to make out papers to be sure of my citizenship—I didn’t want any doubt about that. And then we just started working.”

By 1927 the Kuhrt family was farming 3,500 acres of western Kansas land and managing it so that it was in better condition with each passing year. The

This article was abstracted from the National Register nomination draft prepared by Diana Flanders, who is married to a great-grandson of William and Pauline Kuhrt. Mrs. Flanders also provided the historic photographs. She lives on the Kuhrt Ranch with her husband and two children.

barn had been rebuilt and a grain elevator, machine shed, and repair shop had been added.

Breeding Purebred Cattle

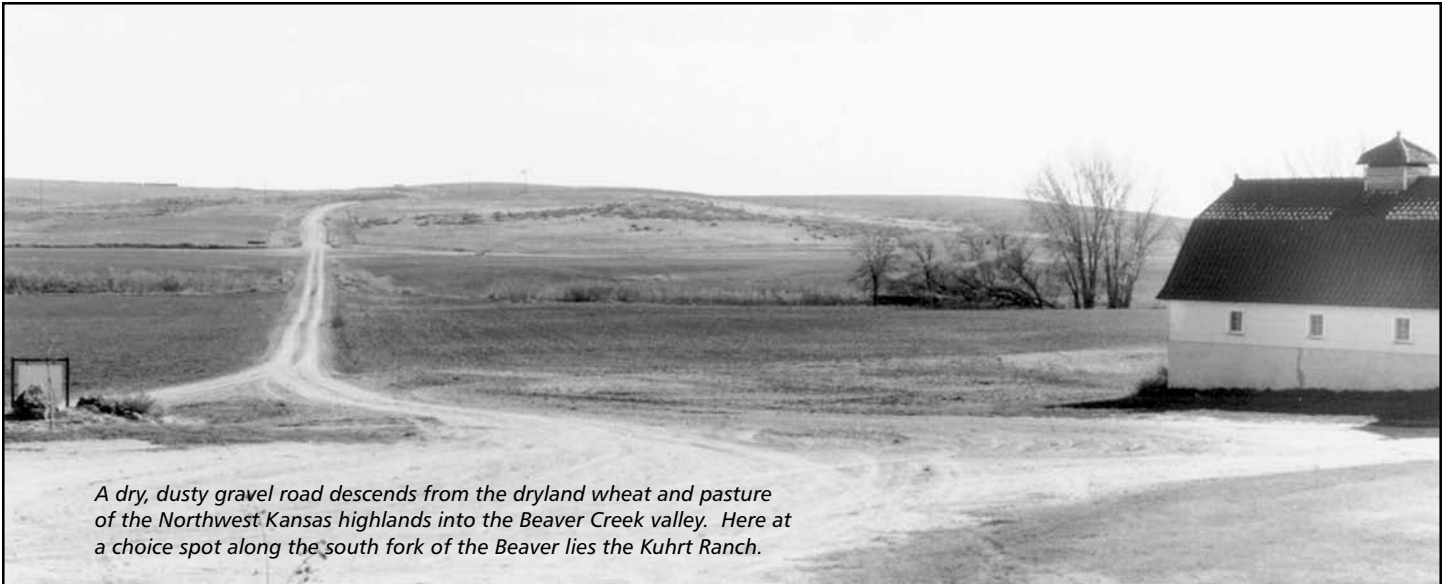
The Kuhrt family was very active in 4-H. Many times 4-H members were invited to the Kuhrt Ranch for a day of learning and fun. Livestock judging teams were also trained at the ranch as shown above.

The Kuhrts started in the Shorthorn purebred business in January 1916 with the purchase of four heifers and a bull. The following year, they paid \$50 for a purebred bull. Pictures of some of the early Kuhrt breeding stock reflect types that are a far cry from the herd that was ultimately developed. The family bred for a particular type and ended up becoming leaders in the field. In 1927, Sultan’s First, one of the family’s Shorthorn yearlings, was named grand cham-

pion at the National Western Livestock Show in Denver.

The May 23, 1936, issue of *Kansas Farmer* raved about the Kuhrt’s accomplishments: “The Kuhrt herd of Shorthorn cows is uniform, exceptionally low-set, and they annually produce calves which are winners. One steer was declared grand champion over all breeds at the Denver show.

The Kuhrts’ success with Shorthorns has been due to their care in selecting sires which are low-set and compact, early maturing, yet big when grown out. The cows are heavy milkers, which combined with natural size, results in heavy calves at weaning age. Visitors comment favorably on the Kuhrt calves, and many boys and girls go here for stock to use in feeding projects. This year a vocational agriculture teacher from Texas drove 728 miles to select 7 Kuhrt calves.”



A dry, dusty gravel road descends from the dryland wheat and pasture of the Northwest Kansas highlands into the Beaver Creek valley. Here at a choice spot along the south fork of the Beaver lies the Kuhrt Ranch.

Pauline Kuhrt's Legacy

As the ranch grew in acres so did Pauline Kuhrt's knowledge in agriculture. She was a model in agricultural management and was painstakingly competent. In 1928, she was honored by the Kansas State Board of Agriculture for outstanding work for Kansas agriculture, one of just a few women in the state to be thus honored.

Through her astute management, the Kuhrts were able to improve and add to the agriculture buildings on the ranch. The layout of the buildings and the landscape of the ranch were widely admired. Numerous newspaper and magazine articles commented on the beauty and the efficiency of the ranch.

The Kuhrts were able to change the face of the ranch between 1933 and 1934, adding a Spanish Colonial flair to the valley with red pantile roofed buildings. But, the greatest pride to the Kuhrt family was the home built for Pauline in 1934.

On January 4, 1934, Ben H. Byrnes, an architect from Salina, wrote a letter to Mrs. Kuhrt soliciting a job. Pauline's nephew had told Byrnes that she was planning to build a residence. This letter, along with floor plans for the house and a pencil drawing of the plans for the exterior of the house are still in the family's possession today.

In April 1934 the plans were finished and Byrnes was paid \$225. The original 1907 house was then transformed with the Kuhrt family doing the construction. The house was refaced with native limestone quarried from

nearby hills by the Kuhrt family with the help of hired neighbors. The roof was adorned with Spanish clay tiles.

Also, in the 1930s the Kuhrts remodeled the 1922 barn with innovative interior features. Bins and feeding were conveniently arranged. A single handle would close all stanchions for milk cows at the same time. The inside tanks kept water available for livestock at all times—cool water in the summer and warm water in the winter.

The exterior of the barn had a cement foundation. The lower half of the walls was cement and the upper half was red-painted wooden weatherboard. The trim around the doors, windows and eaves were painted white. The roof was covered with three-tab, asphalt, composition shingles. Today, the barn maintains a high degree of architectural integrity and a moderate degree of structural integrity. In 1933, the shingles were replaced with red galvanized iron-tile and asbestos siding covered the wood.

In 1933 the Kuhrt family built an impressive machine shop after a fire destroyed an existing outbuilding. The machine shop is a rectangular, front-gabled building with cement foundation and walls. With right and left dropped secondary roofs, the middle-top section of the north and south ends is white-painted weatherboard. The roof is red galvanized iron-tile. This machine shop served as the Kuhrt's home during 1934 when major changes took place to their 1907 home.

According to the 1936 Soil Conservation Program Western Region Work

Sheet A, the Kuhrt Ranch had grown to 4,560 acres by 1936. Of the lands, 1,490 acres were in crops, 236 acres were in roads, lanes, fences, lots, etc.; 60 acres in woods, waste, etc.; 2,754 acres were in pasture and range land; and 20 acres were in wild hay.

In February of 1937, Pauline Kuhrt died of pneumonia in her home. Much of the Kuhrt success was achieved after William Kuhrt's death when Pauline and her family took up the reins and played a major part in the family's climb to the forefront as Shorthorn breeders. The Kuhrt Ranch was a model of Pauline's good management.

The Next Generations

The Kuhrt Ranch was then in the hands of the second generation and progress continued. The family continued in cattle and alfalfa until the 1980s, when cattle were phased out. The ranch continues to produce alfalfa.

Continuing to make improvements on the Kuhrt Ranch, Paul Kuhrt built a bridge in 1950 on a private road, part of the Kuhrt Ranch Historic District nomination. He used plywood reinforced with metal to form an arched half-moon bridge. He then poured concrete, making the bridge secure and wide enough to handle the farm machinery being used. This bridge is a contributing resource with high architectural and structural integrity.

Today the third and fourth generations of the family continue to operate the ranch, raising alfalfa and managing a hunting resort.

Heritage Trust Fund Grant Workshop Dates Are Set

The Kansas Historic Preservation Office has established the locations and dates for the 2001-2002 Heritage Trust Fund (HTF) grant application workshops. The HTF is a state program providing matching funds for the preservation of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places or the Register of Historic Kansas Places. This is a competitive grant program, in which applications compete for the funds available that year. The deadline for applications this round is March 1, 2002.

The 2001 round garnered 42 applications. Thirteen projects across the state received more than \$900,000 in grants. At least \$800,000 is expected to be available for the 2002 round.

Attendance at the workshops is not required for submission of an application, but it is strongly recommended. At the workshops HTF staff will answer questions concerning the program and discuss the application process and approaches to take in preparing the application. The workshop schedule is listed below.

October 5, 2001

1 p.m.
Koch Education Center
Kansas History Center
6425 SW Sixth Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66615

October 18, 2001

10:30 a.m.
Wichita City Hall, Tenth Floor
455 North Main Street
Wichita, Kansas 67202

November 8, 2001

11 a.m.
Fort Hays State Historic Site
1472 Highway 183 Alternate
Hays, Kansas 67601-9212

December 7, 2001

10:30 a.m.
Mine Creek State Historic Site
20485 Kansas HWY 52
Pleasanton, Kansas 66075

January 11, 2002

1 p.m.
Koch Education Center
Kansas History Center
6425 SW Sixth Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66615

For more information on this program, please contact the Kansas Historic Preservation Office at (785) 272-8681 Ext. 240 or write Heritage Trust Fund, Kansas Historic Preservation Office, Kansas State Historical Society, 6425 SW Sixth Avenue, Topeka, Kansas 66615.

2002 Round of Historic Preservation Fund Grants Announced

Application materials for the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grant program are now available from the Kansas Historic Preservation Office. The Historic Preservation Fund is a federal grant program from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The NPS passes funds through the state's historic preservation office to assist local organizations and governments in implementing activities that contribute to planning for the preservation of our built environment and archeological resources.

For 2002 applications are sought for surveys of a community's or area's historic structures and archeological sites, for preparation of nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, for development of city or county historic preservation plans, and for historic preservation related educational programs. Activities financed by the HPF should be directed toward providing individuals and organizations with the information and means to support preservation efforts in their own communities.

Historic Preservation Fund grants are awarded to organizations such as historical societies, universities, regional planning commissions, non-profit corporations, and city and county governments. Up to sixty percent of the project costs may be financed by the HPF. The other forty percent can be matched with cash or in-kind services and materials.

The KHPO expects to award approximately \$100,000 for projects in 2002. Approximately \$50,000 is reserved as a minimum for projects proposed by Certified Local Governments (CLG). Since the federal allocation is pending, these amounts may change.

In fiscal year 2002 applications for the following activities will be given a higher priority: surveys in Kansas Main Street designated program areas and Main Street Partnership cities; multiple property nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, i.e., thematic nominations or nominations for historic districts; surveys in areas facing development pressures; and projects that have the potential for increasing knowledge and awareness of historic resources concerning minority populations in Kansas. A high priority for CLGs will be the imple-

mentation of a state-wide historic preservation conference.

Proposed HPF projects are evaluated according to several criteria. These include the need for the project to address historic preservation issues in the state, the soundness of the proposed project, the administrative ability of the applicant, and the educational potential of the project.

Well developed grant proposals addressing priorities established by the KHPO will have a competitive advantage in the evaluation process. Potential applicants may submit preliminary applications for staff review. The deadline for preliminary applications is October 19, 2001.

Applications for the Historic Preservation Fund grants must be postmarked no later than November 16, 2001, or delivered in person to the KHPO in its office at 6425 SW Sixth Avenue, Topeka, by 5 p.m. on that date. For more information on this program, please contact the Kansas Historic Preservation Office grants manager at (785) 272-8681 Ext. 216.

New Tax Credit Program Receiving Final Touches

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has been working with the Kansas Department of Revenue, Kansas Department of Administration, and Attorney General Carla Stovall's office to finalize the regulations for the new rehabilitation tax credit program. The program, enacted by the state legislature in April and effective July 1, provides an income tax credit equal to twenty-five percent of qualifying rehabilitation expenses on qualified historic structures.

Although the SHPO will be unable to accept applications for the program until temporary regulations are approved, potential applicants are encouraged to begin planning. Please keep the following in mind as you consider applying for the new state tax credit:

1. Applicants must apply to the State Historic Preservation Office. In order to receive the tax credit, the applicant must complete a three-part application form.

2. Project work must conform to the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation*. Conforming to the standards assists in the long-term preser-

vation of a property's significance through the preservation of historic materials and features. For a copy of the standards, contact the State Historic Preservation Office or visit the National Park Service web site at www2.cr.nps.gov/TPS/secstan1.htm.

3. Projects that are not eligible for the federal tax incentives program (i.e., non income-producing properties or income-producing properties that do not meet the requirements of the federal program) must be approved prior to the commencement of work. These buildings must also be listed on the state or national register prior to the commencement of work. If the property is located within a historic district, it must be certified as contributing to the district.

4. Projects approved for the federal rehabilitation tax credit program (for income-producing properties) will be automatically approved for the state rehabilitation tax credit program. In addition to completing the federal application form, these applicants must complete Part 3 of the state form.

5. Project work must exceed \$5,000.

For more information on the federal or state tax credit programs, please contact Christy Davis in the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office at (785) 272-8681 Ext. 227 or cdavis@kshs.org.

It's Not Too Late to Register for Tax Credit Conference

There is still room for you and your favorite attorney, government official, or accountant to attend the one-day workshop *Tax Incentives for Developing Kansas Historic Properties*. The workshop is September 12, 2001, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. at the Kansas Museum of History in Topeka. Participants will learn the ins and outs of applying for federal and state rehabilitation tax credits for income-producing properties.

For more information on the tax credit conference, please contact Christy Davis in the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office at (785) 272-8681 Ext. 227 or cdavis@kshs.org. The registration deadline is August 31, but space is limited so register today. Registration is \$30 and includes lunch. AIA continuing education credits will be available.

Conference Focuses on Historic Bridge Preservation

Kansas has a wealth of bridges—nearly 25,000 span its creeks and rivers. Because many of the state's bridges were designed for lower vehicular speeds and load limits, they often have difficulty meeting current safety and efficiency standards. These standards include minimum or desirable limits for design features such as width, design load, clearances, hydraulic sufficiency, and geometric approach.

There are many examples nationwide of historic bridges that have been maintained and retained for active use. Their continued use and upkeep minimizes the need for renovations. Abandoned bridges, however, do not fare as well and eventually become ruins.

The Kansas conference on historic bridge preservation will explore various ways to keep these older and historic bridges in good condition so they can continue to be kept in service. The one-day conference will emphasize current techniques of repair and restoration for the three major bridge classes: metal truss, reinforced masonry arch, and stone arch. There will be panel discussions and presentations by practicing engineers with applied experience in historic bridge rehabilitations.

The target audience is practicing civil engineers in Kansas and surrounding states although the conference is open to the general public. A certificate will be made available for continuing education credits. Registration is \$30 and covers refreshments and lunch. The conference will be held at the Kansas History Center on November 8, 2001.

The conference is sponsored by the Kansas State Historical Society, Bartlett and West Engineers, and the University of Kansas Civil Engineering Department.

Conference sessions include:

- 1) The possibilities and realities of historic bridge preservation.
- 2) Bridge management plans that include detailed rehabilitation discussions for specific bridges.
- 3) National perspectives from practicing consultants—an overview of projects with a discussion of techniques.
- 4) Case studies—smaller bridges.
- 5) Panel wrap-up. What can be done under existing codes and why it is affordable.

For more information contact Martha Hagedorn-Krass at (785) 272-8681 Ext. 213 or mkrass@kshs.org.

Historic Bridges Conference Registration Form

To register, please complete this form and mail with a \$30 check made payable to Kansas State Historical Society to the following address:

Historic Bridge Conference
Cultural Resources Division
Kansas State Historical Society
6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66615-1099

Completed forms are due by October 26, 2001

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

New Museum to Open in Topeka Historic Building

A new art and history museum is scheduled to open September 1 in downtown Topeka. The Heartland Orthodox Christian Museum at 523 S.W. Van Buren is located in one unit of the Ross Row Houses, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The museum's purpose is to highlight the culture of the Greek, Lebanese, Russian, and Serbian immigrants who settled in Kansas and the Midwest a century ago.

The Virginia H. Farah Foundation of Wichita provided two grants for the renovation of the facility. The museum has three galleries that will feature changing displays of art, photographs, and artifacts exploring the historical and artistic legacy of these Eastern Orthodox immigrants.

For its grand opening the museum will present a two-month exhibition from the Romanov era. "Spiritual Treasures of Czarist Russia: Holy Russian Icons, 1660-1917" includes seventy-one icons from the collection of James and Tatiana Jackson, Cedar Falls, Iowa. A series of special programs supported by a Kansas Arts Commission grant, including workshops, demonstrations of icon painting, a concert of Russian music, and lectures by experts on Russian art, will allow visitors to learn more about icons and Russia.

After its September 1 opening the museum will have regular hours Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. To request a brochure for the "Spiritual Treasures" and for more information about the Heartland Orthodox Christian Museum, call (785) 234-5993 or visit the website at www.orthodoxmuseum.org.

Happenings in Kansas

Midwest SHPO Staff Conference

August 29-31, 2001
Wichita, KS

Opening of The Heartland Orthodox Christian Museum

September 1, 2001
523 S.W. Van Buren
Topeka, KS

Tax Credit Conference

September 12, 2001
Kansas Museum of History
6425 S.W. Sixth Avenue
Topeka, KS

Heritage Trust Fund Grant Workshop

October 5, 2001
1 p.m.
Koch Education Center
Kansas History Center
6425 S.W. Sixth Avenue
Topeka, KS

Heritage Trust Fund Grant Workshop

October 11, 2001
10:30 a.m.
Wichita City Hall, Tenth Floor
455 North Main Street
Wichita, KS

Deadline for Preliminary Historic Preservation Fund Grant

Applications
October 26, 2001
See page 17.

Heritage Trust Fund Grant Workshop

November 8, 2001
11 a.m.
Fort Hays State Historic Site
1472 Highway 183 Alternate
Hays, KS

Historic Bridge Conference

November 8, 2001
Kansas Museum of History
6425 S.W. Sixth Avenue
Topeka, KS

Deadline for Historic Preservation Fund Grant Applications

November 16, 2001
See page 17.

Heritage Trust Fund Grant Workshop

December 7, 2001
10:30 a.m.
Mine Creek State Historic Site
20485 Kansas HWY 52
Pleasanton, KS

Heritage Trust Fund Grant Workshop

January 11, 2002
1 p.m.
Koch Education Center
Kansas History Center
6425 S.W. Sixth Avenue
Topeka, KS

Heritage Trust Fund Grant Application Deadline

March 1, 2002
See page 17.



KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cultural Resources Division
6425 S.W. Sixth Avenue
Topeka, KS 66615-1099

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