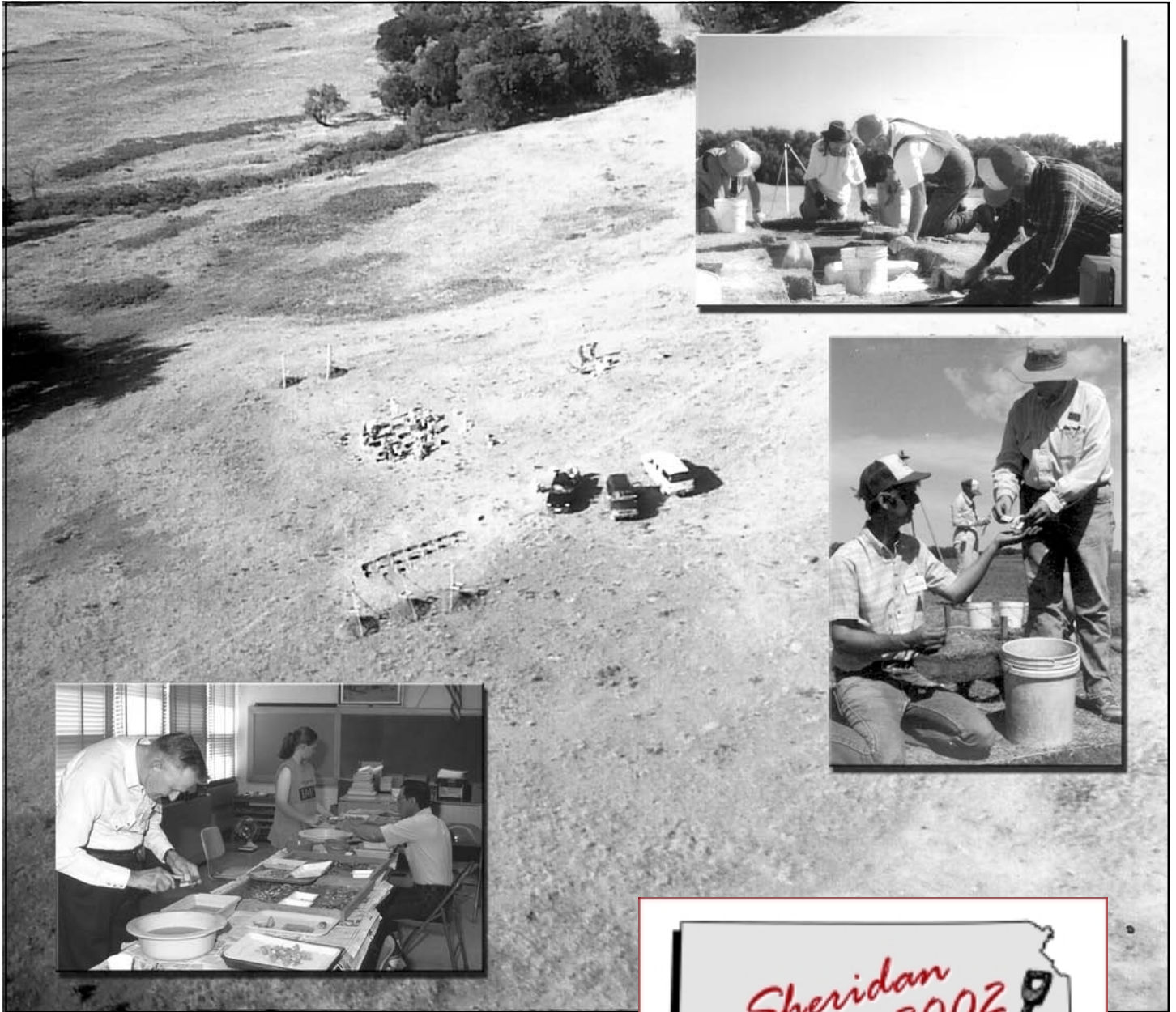


# Kansas Preservation

Newsletter of the Cultural Resources Division • Kansas State Historical Society



*The KATP field school brought 138 volunteers to examine two sites in Sheridan County. They donated a remarkable 5,472 hours to better our understanding of both prehistoric and historic life in western Kansas.*

*Coverage on pages 1-7*

*Sheridan  
County 2002*

**KANSAS**

**ARCHEOLOGY**  
Training Program

June 1 - 16, 2002



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### KANSAS PRESERVATION

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# 2002 KATP Returns to Albert Bell Site and Cottonwood Ranch

*After a 12-year absence, the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) and the Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA) returned to the Albert Bell site (14SD305) and Cottonwood Ranch (14SD327) for the Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school from June 1 through 16. Both sites are located near Studley in the South Solomon River valley of northwestern Kansas.*

*The KATP provides an opportunity for professional archeologists and volunteers to cooperate in scientific investigations. This year, as in 1990, Don Rowison, the administrator of the Cottonwood Ranch State Historic Site, facilitated the planning of the project. Classes and the artifact laboratory were located in the old Morland High School building, now under the auspices of the Morland Community Foundation.*

*This year 138 people registered for the KATP field school. Some attended for only a day or two, while others stayed the entire two weeks. They donated 3,324 hours in the field, 1,348 hours in the lab, and 800 hours in classes, a total of 5,472 hours.*



*(Top) Bob Hoard instructs students in the basics of archeological excavation. Photo by Craig Cooper.*

*(Above) Christy Davis talks to her Historic Architecture class about the condition of a building in Morland. Photo by Anita Frank.*

*(Right) Martin Stein's survey class takes advantage of a road cut to examine jasper exposed when machinery graded over a ledge of the stone. Photo by Craig Cooper.*



## In the Classroom

Classes comprise an essential element of the annual KATP field school. Each morning KSHS archeologist Randy Thies gave the one-hour orientation required for all participants. He also taught the two-hour Principles of Archeology class, a requirement for first-time field school participants.

During the mornings of the first week, Martin Stein, also a KSHS archeologist, taught Archeological Site Survey. In the classroom, students learned to look for signs of human intervention, then they hunted for sites along Countyline Creek just south of Studley. They also visited the pasture that contains Penokee Man, an arrangement of stones shaped like a large human figure.

State Archeologist Bob Hoard taught Basic Archeological Excavation in the afternoons of the same week. After two classroom meetings, the class dug for two afternoons in the midden (trash dump) at the Albert Bell site.

In the mornings of the second week, KSHS archeologists Tim Weston and Will Banks taught Mapping. Instruction began with tapes and compasses and eventually graduated to the total station. Due to a rainy day, the students put their new talents to work by mapping the indoor basketball court.

Christy Davis, KSHS preservation specialist, taught Historic Architecture during afternoons of the second week. Following classroom instruction, the students toured Morland, WaKeeney, and Colby to look at commercial architecture.

## The Albert Bell Site

While some KATP participants took classes or worked in the lab, others were in the field. The Albert Bell site is located on Museum Creek, which flows northward into the South Fork of the Solomon River. Archeologists hoped that digging there would augment information gathered more than a decade ago. In 1990, the KATP crew excavated one

lodge and an associated activity area at 14SD305. Some of the artifacts found within the living areas were diagnostic of the prehistoric Upper Republican culture, one of the village farmer groups within the Central Plains tradition, dating to around A.D. 900 to 1500. Samples of burned earth from the hearth in the house yielded an archaeo-magnetic date of A.D. 1375 plus or minus 50 years.

Archeologists suspected that another Upper Republican house might be located farther up the slope, away from the creek. This year's project provided the first opportunity to investigate that possibility. The KAA contracted with Dr. Donna Roper, an archeologist-researcher with a special interest in Upper Republican sites, to direct the 2002 excavation at 14SD305. Roper was ably assisted in the field by KAA members Harold Reed, Evelyn Reed, Virginia Rexroad, and Sharon Sage and, during the second week, by KSHS archeologist Jennifer Epperson.



## *The Albert Bell Site*



Many days of digging in the suspected area found no evidence of a house. Two possible postholes did not pan out. Roper concluded that there is not another house at the Albert Bell site. She also concluded that the Upper Republican-age ground surface is poorly preserved, probably due to wind erosion.

Nevertheless, there was a light scatter of artifacts in this part of the site. A bison scapula hoe was exposed. A plaster cast was placed over the hoe and surrounding soil and then removed as a block. The rest of the hoe was later unearthed in the laboratory. A portion of an obsidian projectile point and a few flakes of obsidian were also found in this area. This is the first obsidian that Roper has seen on an Upper Republican site. Several other points, some small pottery sherds, and a small quantity of chert flakes also were recovered in this part of 14SD305.

During the second week of the 2002 KATP field school, Roper shifted her attention to a midden or dump area on the northeastern edge of 14SD305. This trash accumulation lies immediately

adjacent to, and perhaps is a part of, the activity area dug in 1990. It has been and continues to be disturbed by the digging of relic hunters. Artifact recovery was higher here. Pottery was more abundant, as were chert flakes. Bone fragments were recovered in some number. The surprise artifact was a complete bone fishhook. Fishhooks have been found at Upper Republican sites elsewhere and now have been documented at 14SD305.

During the second week also, some attention was directed toward excavating 14 square meters on one side and 5 square meters on the other side of the house excavated in 1990. Archeologists usually have excavated houses and middens but not areas around houses—the “yards”—so this was a good opportunity to see what was happening in the area sur-

*(Top Left) At the Albert Bell site Walter Ernst of Enterprise sprays his excavation unit in the hope of softening the soil in the next 10-centimeter level. Photo by Ann Miner.*

*(Top Right) An aerial view of excavations at the Albert Bell site on the final day of work shows the crew concentrating on the midden area. Photo by Randy Thies.*

*(Bottom Left) Janet Hula of Pittsburg, Mark Darrow of Garden Plain, Clarence Todd of Effingham, Norman Dye of Meade demonstrate the utility of sharp trowels at the Albert Bell site. Photo by Craig Cooper.*

*(Bottom Right) The endurance of first-time KATP participant Nate Myers of Zenda is tested at the Albert Bell site. KSHS staffer Jennifer Epperson works in the adjoining unit. Sharon Sage of Auburn and Richard Gould of Republic consult on records in the background. Photo by Ann Miner.*

rounding an Upper Republican house. The Upper Republican-age ground surface was much better preserved here than it was in the western part of the site, and artifact recovery was, in fact, rather high.

While excavations proceeded, other data also was collected. A topographic map of 14SD305 from the creek to the road was compiled by Stein, Banks, and KAA assistant Vita Tucker. Hoard found

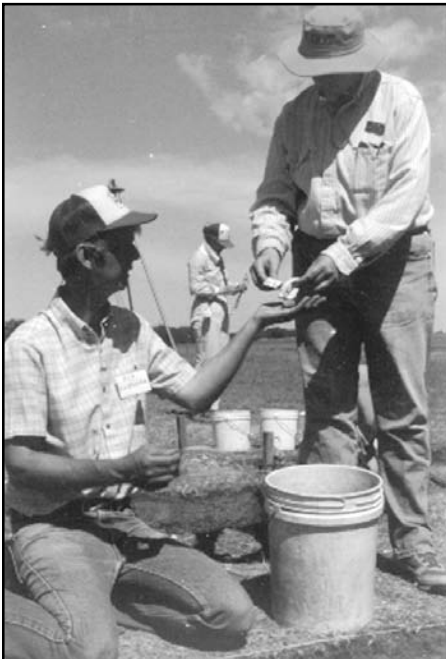


## Cottonwood Ranch Site



*(Top Left) Allen Wiechert of Lawrence and Margie Reed of Salina measure and draw a picture of a completed excavation unit wall. The many profile drawings record the complex stratigraphy of the excavated area for later analysis. Photo by Virginia Wulfkuhle.*

*(Top Right) At the Cottonwood Ranch, Beatrice Bauer of Manhattan and Jim Hoy of Emporia identify the artifacts from their excavation unit as they fill out their 10-centimeter level form. Photo by Virginia Wulfkuhle.*



*(Left) Rick Ellerman of Nortonville shows site director Marsha King fragments of whiteware, which are common in this historic dump at the Cottonwood Ranch. Photo by Craig Cooper.*

some nearby clay sources, and these clays will be compared and contrasted with the clay in the Albert Bell potsherds. A soil scientist from the Natural Resources Conservation Service described the natural layers of soils below the ground surface.

Samples of soil were taken throughout the excavated squares. These were sent to the soil flotation station in the east yard of Cottonwood Ranch. The flotation was supervised by KAA volunteer Beth Keck during the first week and by Weston throughout the second week. In the flotation process, heavy pieces such as stone and bone fragments sink, and light pieces such as charred seeds float. These bits and pieces, just like the larger excavated artifacts, will be sorted and catalogued.

Roper will incorporate her analysis of the Albert Bell site finds into the larger picture of the Upper Republican cultural complex. Many archeological sites in northcentral and northwestern

Kansas and across the border in Nebraska are labeled Upper Republican, yet there are definite differences. Roper plans to compare and contrast a number of sites, including the Albert Bell site; the Wollenberg site in Washington County, excavated by the 1991 KATP field school; the Coal-Oil Canyon site in Logan County; and sites in the Medicine Creek valley in Nebraska, 74 miles from 14SD305.

### The Cottonwood Ranch

This is one of the years that the KATP field school had investigations going on at a prehistoric and a historic site at the same time. While Roper directed the Albert Bell site dig, excavations proceeded at the Cottonwood Ranch under the direction of Marsha King, an archeologist with expertise in historic sites on loan from the Kansas Department of Transportation. Support staff included KSHS public archeologist Virginia Wulfkuhle, and KAA volunteers Dick Keck, Ernie Justus, and Margie Reed.

The Cottonwood Ranch, a late-nineteenth-century English sheep ranch, became a state historic site in 1982. In 1990 the KATP crew defined the location of a large outbuilding and the original ground surface of the front yard. This year's team set out to find the icehouse. Ranch records show that owner John

Fenton Pratt hired neighbors to cut ice from the Solomon River and nearby ponds and that the last load of ice was delivered in December 1932.

While records of the exact location, construction details, and demise of the icehouse do not exist, one photograph appears to show the icehouse in the background. Some who remember the icehouse place the structure in the bank of a small drainage west of the house. This is where the grid for the 2002 excavations was laid out.

After two weeks of digging, King could not say that the icehouse had been found. No clear remnants of mortared stone foundations were exposed, although lots of bits and pieces of structural materials, such as chunks of Smoky Hill chalk with saw marks and Ogallala limestone fragments, were uncovered. This led King to wonder if the rock might have been "robbed" once the structure was no longer needed. A recorded incident of Pratt selling rock from another no-longer-useful building in 1911 was a precedent for this practice. The excavators found extensive layers of organic material that was interpreted as compacted hay—perhaps the material used to insulate the ice. Of course, compacted hay could be remnants of the ranching operation, too.

King expected to find Pratt family trash, as local informants had said that



*(Left) In the Morland High School lab, Laverna Ernst of Enterprise and Sharon Sage of Auburn inventory and label the artifacts that have come in from both excavation sites. Photo by Craig Cooper.*

*(Below) Although a first-time participant, Sarah Meitl of Dresden was an enthusiastic and quick learner as she worked with experienced KAA member Kent Sallee of Inman. Photo by Virginia Wulfkuhle.*

*(Lower Left) Donna Roper examines the bison scapula hoe that was jacketed in the field and "excavated" in the lab. Photo by Bob Hoard.*



the family used the depression from the abandoned icehouse as a dump. The excavators did find large quantities of artifacts in the fill, including pre-1933 artifacts. Rowleson proposed a plausible theory to explain the presence of older materials: one of the Pratt outbuildings could have been cleaned out after the icehouse ceased to function, so much of the junk deposited in 1933 or later represented an earlier era. Pratt kept meticulous records of his business dealings. However, these records are silent regarding many of the family's personal possessions and habits. Thus, a study of one of the family's trash disposal areas might lead to a more thorough understanding of the Pratt family.

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*This article and the following article on the activities that accompanied the field school were prepared by Mary Conrad. Mary is the historian for the Kansas Anthropological Association and a librarian at Sumner Academy in Kansas City, Kansas.*

The following selected list gives an idea of the types of artifacts recovered. Bones of chicken, turkey, sheep, and possibly geese, some with butcher marks, were ubiquitous. A myriad of dishware fragments represent a wide variety of wares and patterns, including fine china, whiteware, transferware, stoneware, ironstone, and crockery. Forms include egg cups, plates, cups, pitchers, bowls, a possible tureen, a compote, and crocks. Many dishes have English manufacturers' marks, including a souvenir cup from Leeds, England. Glass fragments came from windows, drinking glasses, bottles, chimney lamps, the bottom of an oil lamp, and possibly the gasoline sediment bowl of an old tractor. Two ink bottles are complete. Remnants of leather shoes, particularly the heels, were abundant. Buttons, both plain and fancy, were made of metal, glass, and porcelain. The presence of children was revealed by doll fragments, toy dishes, figurines, and many slate pencils. (Pratt and his wife Jennie Elizabeth Place had two daughters, Hilda and Elsie.)

Some of the other items unearthed include fragments of farm machinery, metal tools, shell casings, iron pots, wire, a coal shovel, barbed wire, tin cans, nails, bolts, safety pins, lead seals, an ivory handle, an ivory cribbage piece, and two pennies, one dated 1865. The presence of three prehistoric tools (one scraper and two projectile points) likely indicate Indian artifact collecting.

Banks and Tucker collected data to compile a topographic map of the entire state historic site, including the excavation area.

## **Special Research Projects**

While excavations were in progress at 14SD305 and 14SD327, KSHS archeologists took the opportunity to pursue other areas of research, too. Special Projects Archeologist Tod Bevitt interviewed local residents and did ground checks to find archeological evidence of what is known as Ft. Floyd, a berm that was used in a one-day battle in 1857 between the U.S. Army and the Cheyenne Indians. It is thought to be between Morland and Penokee, although area historians disagree on the exact location. Bevitt was unable to definitely prove or disprove any of the proposed spots.

Stein also pursued a special project, searching for jasper outcrops in six counties—Gove, Graham, Norton, Phillips, Sheridan, and Trego. Jasper, a high quality stone for knapping, was used by American Indians for tool making. This colorful stone, indigenous to northwestern Kansas and southwestern Nebraska, was traded widely in prehistoric times. Stein and his KATP helpers collected large samples of jasper. At the source areas, they could not test the quality of the stone by knocking off flakes with hammerstones since this would contaminate the archeological record. Thus, they had to pry out large chunks with metal

tools. KSHS will share samples with six universities and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Samples will be sent to a geologist at Louisiana State University to see if the jasper contains unique microfossils that will positively identify it in comparison to stones from other geological formations.

Thies spent afternoons recording sites and artifact collections in the vicinity. He also assisted the Norton County Historical Society in preparing a permanent exhibit about the Upper Republican culture and the 1982 KATP field school at the LeBeau site.

## In Conclusion

This year 138 people registered for the field school. Some attended for only a day or two, while others stayed the entire two weeks. They donated 3,324 hours in the field, 1,348 hours in the lab,

and 800 hours in classes, a total of 5,472 hours.

The weather was definitely a factor in what could be accomplished. On many days the temperatures were abnormally high for early June and the hot, dry winds were incessant. The first two days were particularly hot with temperatures of 105 degrees or greater. Because of the dry conditions, cutting through the soils at the Albert Bell site proved so difficult that the archeologists resorted to watering down the excavation units daily. The diggers had to pace themselves. On three days, the Albert Bell site workers were chased from the site due to rain, which the farmers badly needed as northwestern Kansas is in the fourth year of a drought.

Due to the continuing extreme weather conditions, the archeologists called off excavations for half a day on the middle Sunday. That afternoon many

diggers volunteered in the lab, so KSHS laboratory supervisor Chris Garst and her KAA assistant Mary Conrad had 28 volunteers instead of the usual dozen or so.

Despite the less than ideal weather conditions, the KATP participants could not complain about the reception they received. The community of Morland went out of its way to accommodate the participants by offering breakfasts and sack lunches. They even opened a restaurant for lunch and supper.

Although the expectations of finding a prehistoric house and a turn-of-the-century icehouse were not realized, both excavations collected valuable information. An Upper Republican "yard" and part of a midden were investigated. The array of Pratt family artifacts is fascinating. The studies of these two sites in Sheridan County will help in a more complete telling of the story of Kansas.

# Help for Museums with Small Budgets

Museum directors and volunteers from throughout the state participated in a valuable workshop to help them succeed without spending a lot of money.

The workshop entitled "Exhibits for Museums with Small Budgets: A Basic Technical Workshop" was held June 1-2 at the old high school building in Morland, Kansas. The workshop was co-sponsored by the Kansas State Historical Society and the Kansas Anthropological Association and coincided with the first weekend of the Kansas Archeology Training Program field school, which was headquartered at that location. The instructor was James A. West, formerly a museum exhibits technician at KSHS for 15 years.

Notification of the workshop was sent to more than 300 museums in the state and drew museum directors and volunteers from 10 counties, ranging from Atchison to Wallace and Marshall to Meade counties. The \$20 per person fee included an information packet.

Since this was the initial offering of the workshop, the number of participants was limited to 22. Response to the announcement far exceeded expectations, and a waiting list was started in the event another workshop can be scheduled at a future date.

The workshop began with a general overview and discussion about the approach a museum might want to take for a specific display. Participants were encouraged to first ask themselves, "Will the exhibit be presented as a period room, a special collection, or an interpretive exhibit?"

West introduced the participants to a design process used in formulating, organizing, and assembling an exhibit. Factors that can affect the exhibit area should be considered even before the design begins. For example, windows that let in direct sunlight or other bright lights can be very damaging to fabrics, photographs, paintings, etc. Certain woods used in

constructing cases or shelves and acid paper laid beneath or around artifacts can damage fragile items. Acid-free paper and foam core should be used to conserve artifacts. The floor layout should consider the natural traffic flow (for instance, Americans tend to go to the right) and compliance with regulations set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act to allow people with disabilities to easily maneuver. West showed slides to illustrate what constitutes a good exhibit.

The workshop covered fabrication and mounting techniques for labels and graphics. A discussion developed concerning the labeling of exhibited artifacts to recognize individual donors. For ease of reading, while giving full credit, West suggested an exhibit billboard that lists all contributors and donors in one place. The point was made that the costs of photographic enlargements have been greatly reduced by the switch to computer-generated graphics.

The class moved to the high school workshop where tools, materials, and techniques of display construction were shown. West demonstrated tools used in cutting mats, gluing laminate, and gluing and bending Plexiglas® to make display stands. West built a donation box with a laminated bottom shelf and a Plexiglas® cube top. One of the participants was lucky enough to win the box for her museum.

The participants submitted evaluations at the end of the workshop and overwhelmingly stated that the workshop had met their expectations. Some commented that they had been introduced to many things to think about in approaching their exhibits and had gained new sources of information and ways to get things done. They offered good suggestions for future topics and hands-on work and requested a future workshop.

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*This article was prepared by Anita Frank, archeological site files manager for the Cultural Resources Division.*

# Many Activities Accompany Field School



State Archeologist Bob Hoard examines a collection of artifacts at Collectors' Night. Photo by Craig Cooper.

**A**long with fieldwork, laboratory work, and classes, a wide variety of events was scheduled for KATP volunteers and to encourage participation by local residents. These events were coordinated by the Kansas State Historical Society/Kansas Anthropological Association planning committee, headed by KAA First Vice President Sharon Sage.

James West, a former KSHS exhibits technician, taught the workshop "Exhibits for Museums with Small Budgets" the first weekend. See the story on page 6.



Archeologist Marsha King tells the crowd at the final resumé about discoveries at the Cottonwood Ranch. Photo by Randy Thies.

Anyone was invited to bring archeological artifacts or any type of old object to the Morland High School gym on the first Wednesday evening. KSHS archivist Darrell Garwood and Kansas Museum of History curators Blair Tarr and Jill Keehner were on duty to provide identifications during this Collectors' Night. Garwood stayed the following day to conduct an ongoing collecting project in which local people can share personal letters, photographs, and other family records. KSHS staff makes copies for the archives in Topeka and also provides copies for the local historical societies.

At the beginning of the two weeks, KAA had two meetings about the process of certification, a formal program designed to help volunteers become well rounded in archeological techniques over a number of years. Rose Marie Wallen, the newly appointed certification chair, enrolled five new people.

On June 6 and June 11, picnics were catered by Leanna Sloan of Hoxie in the Morland City Park. The first was a "cream can dinner" of sausages and vegetables steamed in a cream can, and the second was barbecued beef and all the fixings. Following these dinners, Don Rowlison, administrator of the Cottonwood Ranch State Historic Site, presented slide programs at the school. "Cowboyography" covered the history of cowboy culture, and "The History of Cottonwood Ranch" revealed details about the Pratt family, the larger English ranching community, and the ranch complex.

On the second weekend, a number of KATP participants joined in activities of the Cottonwood Cowboy Gathering at the Cottonwood Ranch. Many KAA members particularly enjoyed the cowboy sing on Saturday evening.

One evening the Morland Community Foundation opened the historic Morland State Bank building that has been transformed into a museum. Throughout the two weeks, many KATP participants took photos of the brick mural on the current Morland bank, the Citizens State Bank. This mural depicts a 1985 paleontological dig at the Minium Quarry, located about five miles northwest of Morland.

The lab remained open late on the second Wednesday night. Thirty-six people volunteered, and 79 extra hours of lab work were logged.

On the final Thursday and Friday evenings, Randy Thies, a KSHS archeologist with a special interest in cemeteries, began what he hopes will become an annual KATP event. He gave tours of the Morland Cemetery, pointing out the symbolism in the designs of the tombstones and in the arrangements of the graves.

As usual, each KATP week concluded with a resumé, an explanation of project accomplishments. Both gatherings were held in the Morland High School gymnasium. A potluck dinner was held in conjunction with the first Friday resumé, and an ice cream social accompanied the last Saturday event.

Also throughout the two weeks, anyone was welcome to visit either site or the lab during work hours. The numbers of visitors who signed the guest books were 38 at the Albert Bell site, 168 at Cottonwood Ranch, and 162 in the lab.

The KATP field school provides an intense two weeks of activities—day and night—if participants go to all or almost all of the scheduled events. Many do just that!

# 2003 Round of Historic Preservation Fund Grants Announced

Application materials for the Fiscal Year 2003 round of 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 state preservation offices to assist local organizations and governments implement activities that will contribute to planning for the preservation of our built environment and archeological resources. Eligible activities include surveys of historic structures and archeological sites, the production of nominations to the National Register of Historic Places, the development of historic preservation plans, and 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 60 percent of the project costs may be financed by the HPF. The other 40 percent can be provided in cash or in-kind services and materials. The latter may include donated services and materials.

The KHPO will have approximately \$125,000 to award for projects in 2003. Of these, a minimum of approximately \$70,000 is reserved for projects proposed by Certified Local Governments (CLG). In fiscal year 2003 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.

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 that address priorities established by the KHPO will have a competitive advantage in the evaluation process. Potential applicants may submit preliminary applications for staff review. The preliminary application deadline is October 4, 2002.

Applications for the Historic Preservation Fund grants must be postmarked no later than November 15, 2002 or delivered in person to the KHPO in its office at 6425 SW 6th Avenue, Topeka, by 5 p.m. on that date.

For more information on this program, please contact the grants manager at (785) 272-8681 Ext. 216.

## Heritage Trust Fund Grant Applications Available

The Kansas Historic Preservation Office announces the availability of applications for the 2003 round of Heritage Trust Fund (HTF) grants in early September. The HTF is a state program that provides 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 that are available for that year.

The deadline for applications in this round of grants is March 1, 2003. To be eligible for funding, applications must be complete and postmarked by the stated deadline. If an application is hand delivered, it must be received no later than 4:45 p.m. at the Kansas Historic Preservation Office on March 1, 2003. Final selection of projects will be made at the spring meeting of the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review.

Preliminary applications must be submitted for review by January 15, 2003. Preliminary applications are not required, but are encouraged. Grant writing workshops for this program will be held in locations around the state. Dates and locations for the workshops will be enclosed in the application packet.

For more information on this pro-

gram, please contact the Kansas Historic Preservation Office at (785) 272-8681 Ext. 216 or write Heritage Trust Fund, Kansas Historic Preservation Office, Kansas State Historical Society, 6425 SW Sixth Avenue, Topeka, Kansas 66615.

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*The preceding two articles were prepared by Carl Magnuson, grants manager for the Cultural Resources Division.*

## State Rehab Tax Credit Law Amended

Governor Graves recently approved technical amendments to the state rehabilitation tax law that promise to allow the realization of the credit's original intent. These amendments were passed at the end of the legislative session and signed by Governor Graves on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Kansas state rehabilitation tax credits can now be used to offset income, privilege, or premiums tax liability rather than income tax liability only. The state tax credits may also be divided among the members of a partnership or corporation in any percentage, as long as the members agree to the distribution.

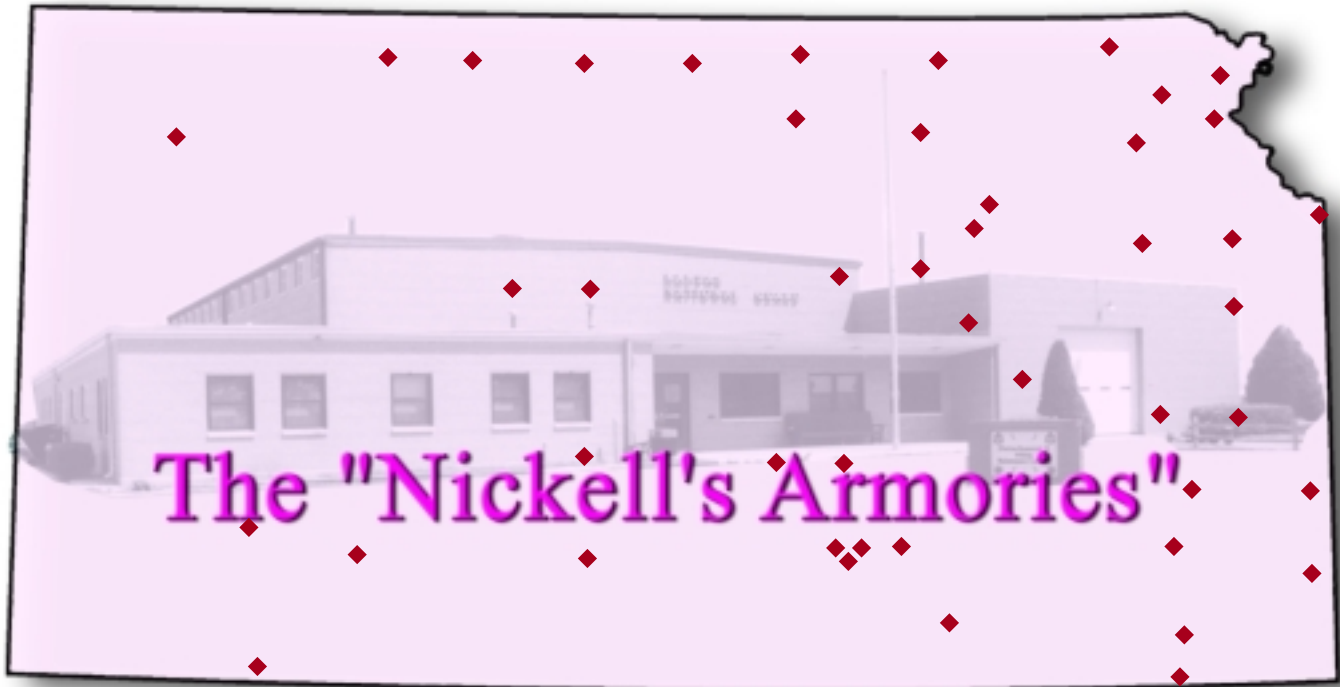
Perhaps the largest change in the state rehabilitation tax credit is that property owners may now transfer, assign, or sell any tax credits they cannot use. This provision also applies to non-profit entities that have not been able to take advantage of tax incentives in the past. It is expected that these changes will promote increased investment in Kansas communities while encouraging the preservation of the state's historic buildings. The Kansas Historic Preservation Office hopes that the changes will make the program a more usable economic development tool.

Since the State Historic Preservation Office began accepting applications in September 2001, more than 20 Kansas property owners have applied. The tax credits, equal to 25 percent of qualified rehabilitation expenditures, are available to owners of income-producing buildings or private residences listed on the state or national registers of historic places.

To find out more about tax incentives for historic buildings, contact the Cultural Resources Division of the Kansas State Historical Society at (785) 272-8681 Ext. 240 or [cultural\\_resources@kshs.org](mailto:cultural_resources@kshs.org).

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*This article was prepared by Katrina Klingaman, who oversees the federal and state rehabilitation tax credits.*



*The National Guard of Kansas contracted with the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) in 1996 for a cultural resources survey of the Kansas Army National Guard (KSARNG) installation consisting of various properties owned, operated, or used by KSARNG. The primary purpose of the study was to survey, identify, and record all significant cultural resources owned, used or impacted by KSARNG. The study was intended to fulfill the Guard's obligations as required under the National Historic Preservation Act, as well as other laws.*

*As a result of the contract, KSHS staff surveyed and inventoried all 70 KSARNG sites and evaluated each for historical significance. A final report entitled "Kansas Army National Guard Cultural Resources Survey" was submitted by KSHS staff member Randall M. Thies last year. The survey identified 58 armories, with only three built before World War II; these three armories in Hiawatha, Kingman, and St. Marys were determined eligible for nomination to the National Register. A previous article in Kansas Preservation addressed these three historic armories.*

*This article covers the collection of Cold War armories constructed under the leadership of Adjutant General Joe Nickell between 1951 and 1972. Known as the "Nickell's armories," they were deemed significant and will soon be old enough for Register consideration.*

## Post-war Armories Spring Up Throughout Kansas

They aren't usually considered beautiful buildings; but anyone who has ever attended a basketball game, community dance, or large meeting in one of Kansas' modern National Guard armories must surely appreciate the building's purely functional design. The mass of armories built in Kansas after 1950 followed standardized interior and exterior plans, allowing the most serviceable buildings to be constructed with a minimum time and expense.

Although they were badly needed, few armories were built immediately after World War II due to the national housing crisis and the public's postwar disinterest in the military. Without armory facilities, recruitment and training efforts for the Kansas National Guard were crippled. As the Cold War developed and the Korean War flared, the public began to realize the benefits and need for an expanded military, including an enhanced National Guard. After 1953, the American military and Kansas National Guard promoted continuous adaptation and growth, resulting in federal and state participation in the construction of armories. The Kansas Guard's best spokesman, Brigadier General Joe Nickell, propelled much of the new construction. The persuasive and politically savvy Nickell served as Adjutant

General of Kansas from 1951 until 1972. The lasting reminder of Nickell's term was the construction between 1953 and 1962 of 57 armories in 54 Kansas cities, with one additional armory completed a decade later in 1973. Today 46 of the Nickell's armories remain in active service; some are no longer used by the Guard.

"Nickell's armories" is an obviously appropriate term to describe these facilities. Joe Nickell's experience as a newspaper editor, news broadcaster and state senator meshed with his career in the National Guard. By the time he rose to the position of Adjutant General, he was well equipped to promote the expansion of the Kansas National Guard installation. The need in the 1950s and 1960s for armories was clear, due primarily to three factors. First, between 1940 and 1950, Kansas shifted from having a mostly rural population to an urban population, a trend that accelerated in the 1950s and 1960s. Second, the Korean War exposed deficiencies in the quality of US military equipment, readiness, training, and ability to mobilize. Third, the Reserve Acts of 1952 and 1955 provided several categories of military obligation and incentives. These three factors contributed to Guard recruitment and a massive armory-building program.



*(Left) Based at the KSARNG Armory at 3617 South Seneca in Wichita are Co. C, Co. D, and Detachment 1 of Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 137<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 69<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, and Detachment 2, Co. B, 169<sup>th</sup> Support Battalion. Photo by Randy Thies.*

*(Below) The KSARNG Armory at Norton is used by the 170<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Company. Photo by Randy Thies.*

*The lasting reminder of Nickell's term was the construction between 1953 and 1962 of 57 armories in 54 Kansas cities, with one additional armory completed a decade later in 1973.*



Nickell appealed to local communities, stressing the benefits that would come of having an armory in terms of payroll and for use as a community center. A 1948 law decreed that 75 percent of the construction cost of future armories would be paid for by the federal government, with state and local governments paying the balance; after 25 years, each of these buildings would revert to state ownership. In many cases, the city donated the land on which the local armory was built. The armory-building program between 1953 and 1962 was the largest peacetime task ever accomplished by the Kansas National Guard.

Armories also took on new importance in the 1950s as centers for civil defense and disaster relief, which were new roles for the Guard. The importance of the Guard in dealing with natural disasters was particularly realized in the 1951 flood, one of the most disastrous floods in Kansas history. With these factors in

mind, the Kansas Army Guard and number of armories grew enormously.

With federal funding came a uniformity of design. Most of the armories of this era were of a "contemporary" style, with Kansas armories being no exception. Nationally distributed plans were contracted out to local builders. Constructed with clean lines and primarily flat roofs, the new armories were often identical, not only from town to town, but from state to state as well. Although lacking in the architectural distinction of their predecessors, the Nickell's armories clearly reflected their important role as community centers. All of the Nickell's armories contain a large assembly hall/gymnasium area, individual offices/meeting rooms, and garage bays. The buildings have low silhouettes, with usually only the assembly hall rising above the one-story building. They are typically clad in brick. These designs usually include a kitchen and boast the maximum amount of floor space to accommodate community affairs.

The new armories served local communities as civic centers, a situation which took on a more formal status in 1964 when the military board formally adopted a policy of leasing armories to

*The author of this article, as well as the preceding issue's article on the three historic armories, is Susan Jezak Ford. She was contracted by the Kansas State Historical Society to prepare the Multiple Property Documentation form entitled "National Guard Armories of Kansas."*

*The Remaining Nickell's Armories*

- Abilene 1953
- Atchison 1963
- Augusta 1958
- Belleville 1956
- Burlington 1954
- Chanute 1957
- Cherryvale 1956
- Clay Center 1955
- Coffeyville 1956
- Colby 1960
- Concordia 1953
- Council Grove 1954
- Dodge City 1959
- Emporia 1955
- Fort Scott 1955
- Garden City 1958
- Garnett 1955
- Hays 1956
- Holton 1973
- Horton 1954
- Hutchinson 1958
- Iola 1954
- Junction City 1958
- Kansas City 1956
- Larned 1961
- Lawrence 1961
- Liberal 1958
- Manhattan 1955
- Mankato 1958
- Marysville 1954
- Newton 1955
- Norton 1957
- Ottawa 1954
- Phillipsburg 1963
- Pittsburg 1956
- Pratt 1955
- Russell 1956
- Sabetha 1953
- Salina 1956
- Smith Center 1960
- Topeka 1956
- Troy 1953
- Wichita-West 1955
- Wichita-East 1955
- Wichita-South 1958
- Winfield 1953

*Continued on 13*

# The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act: Federal Protection for American Indian Burials and Sacred Objects

The November-December 2001 issue of *Kansas Preservation* contained an article on the Kansas Unmarked Burial Sites Preservation Act, which was enacted in 1989 to protect those burials not on federal or Indian reservation land and not covered under existing cemetery laws. In that article it was noted that a similar federal act, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), governs the fate of American Indian human remains and associated burial goods on federal and reservation land. NAGPRA also mandates the return of American Indian remains and sacred objects in federally-funded institutions to their closest living relatives.

Graves of Americans of European descent, most commonly marked with headstones and contained within cemeteries, have been protected by law for many years. But no such protection was offered to burial mounds and other Indian interments, despite the fact that some of these are easily recognizable and are identified on topographic maps issued by the U.S. Geological Survey. An additional affront to American Indian beliefs and traditions was the warehousing and display of skeletons of American Indians in museums and in tourist attractions such as the Salina Burial Pit (see *Kansas Preservation*, September-October issue, 1989). Because of these concerns, American Indians began actively lobbying government officials during the 1970s for protection of the graves of their ancestors. Several states, including Kansas, passed laws in the 1980s to protect Indian burials or burials not in Euro-American type cemeteries. At the same time, the issue of Indian burials, as well as museum hold-

ings of Indian human remains and sacred objects, was raised at the national level by such well-known individuals as Morris Udall, John McCain, and Daniel Inouye.

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act became law on November 16, 1990, to serve two purposes. The first is to protect the graves of American Indians on federal or tribal land. The second is to provide for the return of sacred objects, objects of cultural patrimony, and the remains of

*Since NAGPRA was enacted, the remains of thousands of individuals and thousands of objects important to American Indians have been returned by museums and agencies, including KSHS.*

deceased American Indians—collectively referred to as cultural items—that are in museums or other institutions to their closest identifiable relatives.

Both accidentally discovered burials and known burials threatened with disturbance are protected by NAGPRA. When American Indian burials on federal or tribal land are discovered accidentally, the act requires that the burial site be protected until consultation with kin groups or tribes determines the next step. But there are times when a planned project or natural processes threaten to destroy a known grave site. NAGPRA requires that the agency in charge of the land where the burial is threatened consult with Indian tribes that are likely to be related—either by cultural group or kinship—to the deceased person in the grave to determine the best course of action. The result may be the modification or cancellation of the project, undertaking measures to protect the burial

from natural processes, or the excavation of the deceased individual with provision for reburial elsewhere.

For years museums and universities excavated American Indian remains and associated burial goods as part of their research into the past. They also collected objects used in ceremonies, some of which were property of the society as a whole, with no single person having the right to transfer possession. An equivalent situation might be to sell or give away the original Declaration of Independence—an object that belongs to the American people. This document has meaning that takes it beyond individual ownership and control; it is owned collectively and is an item of cultural patrimony. The same is true for some artifacts acquired by museums from tribes, so NAGPRA sets procedures for their return. The act gave agencies and museums five years to compile inventories of the cultural items in their possession. The agencies and museums were then directed to determine the cultural affiliation of the cultural items and to contact the appropriate tribes to initiate consultation on how to repatriate those items.

Since NAGPRA was enacted, the remains of thousands of individuals and thousands of objects important to American Indians have been returned by museums and agencies, including KSHS. The process can take an enormous amount of time. Very large collections and their associated records need to be researched and cultural items identified. Research for each cultural item is conducted and an inventory written. The appropriate tribe or closest relative needs to be contacted and consultation conducted. In many cases, records do not contain sufficient information to determine closest relative or cultural affiliation. It is not unusual for individuals to donate cultural items to museums that have been in their families for years; often the only information they can offer for the items is that they were passed from one generation to the next in their families. Other cultural items, like prehistoric human bone found on a river sandbar and brought in to a museum, offer little information about specific kin relationships.

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*The author, Bob Hoard, is the state archaeologist and works with archaeologist Randy Thies on NAGPRA compliance for KSHS. They can be reached by calling (785) 272-8681 Ext. 240, or by email at rhoard@kshs.org or rthies@kshs.org. The author thanks Mr. Patt Murphy, NAGPRA representative of the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, for contributing to this article.*

For these cases, repatriation to the appropriate tribe is problematic. NAGPRA requires that a relationship be established before repatriation takes place. How can closest kin or cultural affiliation be determined for these items? While direct lineal kinship may be difficult or impossible to establish, a determination that human remains are American Indian prompts efforts to return these remains.

In an attempt to comply with NAGPRA, KSHS and the Kansas University Museum of Anthropology (KUMA) are co-sponsors of a project to create a Memorandum of Agreement between a number of tribes, universities, museums, and agencies in Kansas to transfer possession of these culturally unidentified items to a group of tribes with historical ties to the state. Dr. Mary Adair, interim director of the KUMA, has been instrumental in securing funding for this effort and in arranging for tribal and institutional consultation. Progress has been steady but slow. Not all tribes agree that the cultural items in question are culturally unidentified. There also are differences of opinion on whether scientific studies that have potential to more positively identify cultural affiliation should be allowed. These differences require more consultation before the cultural items can be transferred.

NAGPRA itself has been a controversial issue. For archeologists studying the behavior, diet, and demographics of past cultures, the loss of skeletons through repatriation is the loss of critical data.

Some tribal members have countered that these studies have done nothing for them and that the human remains should be given to them. For agencies, museums, and tribes, it can be difficult to commit the time and resources to carry out the consultation needed for repatriation to take place. Finally, not all tribes want their deceased returned to them. While in these cases NAGPRA's directive to repatriate human remains may worsen an already bad situation, it at least offers the tribe the ability to direct the fate of those remains.

The case of Kennewick Man, a 9,200-year-old skeleton found in Washington state, has received extensive media coverage. The treatment of this individual and claims regarding its kinship have raised significant questions about how NAGPRA applies to ancient remains, the roles and responsibilities of agencies and museums, how kinship and cultural affiliation are determined, when testing of human remains is appropriate, and what constitutes adequate consultation with tribes.

Still, despite cultural and philosophical differences, culturally significant objects and human remains are being returned to tribes in Kansas and across the nation, and ties between institutions and tribes have increased as a result of this process. KSHS and other institutions continue to work to meet the obligations directed by NAGPRA.

**Here are some resources that provide more detailed information about NAGPRA:**

**Web resources:**

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nagpra/index.htm>  
Information on and links to the act and regulations, grants, training, consultation assistance, and current issues and notices.

<http://www.sfsu.edu/~nagpra/defs.htm>  
Good summaries of NAGPRA terms and concepts.

<http://www.uiowa.edu/~anthro/reburial/repatriation.htm>  
Links to a variety of opinions and editorial articles, state burial protection laws, and laws of other nations similar to NAGPRA.

**Books on NAGPRA and related topics:**

*The Future of the Past: Archaeologists, Native Americans and Repatriation* by Tamara L. Bray (Editor), Garland Publishing; ISBN: 0815338341; (2001)

*Repatriation Reader: Who Owns American Indian Remains?* by Devon A. Mihesuah (Editor), Bison Books Corp; ISBN: 0803282648; (2000)

*The Riddle of the Bones: Politics, Science, Race, and the Story of Kennewick Man* by Roger Downey, Copernicus Books; ISBN: 0387988777; (2000)

*Skull Wars: Kennewick Man, Archaeology, and the Battle for Native American Identity* by David Hurst Thomas, Basic Books; ISBN: 046509225X; (2001)

## Review Board to Meet in August

The Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review will meet at 9 a.m. on Saturday, August 24, in the classroom at the Kansas Museum of History. The agenda includes evaluating the following properties for the National Register of Historic Places:

- Two historic districts from the Holliday Park neighborhood in Topeka,
- A historic district in Glasco,
- The Northbranch Store in rural Jewell County,
- The Prather Barn in Pratt County,
- The old Post Office in Lawrence,
- The Wolf Hotel in Ellinwood,
- The Goerz House in North Newton,
- The Freeman-Zumbrunn House in Dickinson County,
- The United Methodist Church in Stafford, and
- The Santa Fe Trail Ruts east of Baldwin.

The review board's next meeting will be held on November 2, 2002.



*(Left) The KSARNG Armory at Phillipsburg is home to Detachment 3, 995<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Company. Photo by Randy Thies.*

*(Below) The KSARNG Armory at Russell is home to Detachment 3, 170<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Company. Photo by Randy Thies.*

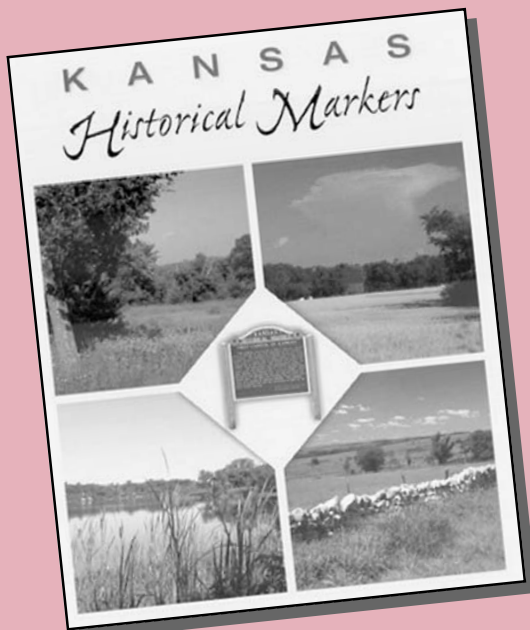


## The Nickell's Armories

*Continued from 10*

various community organizations. Many different uses were made of the buildings as the result of the policy and they became important focal points of community life. Local organizations and groups were only required to pay for utilities and janitorial services and were encouraged to use the armories except for commercial purposes or when Guard events were scheduled. Armories were typically used for meetings of chambers of commerce, Boy or Girl Scouts, various agricultural organizations and basketball practices and games.

Today the KSARNG installation includes 58 armories. Forty-six of them are Cold War armories constructed as dual-function buildings to serve the Guard and the neighboring community. They may not appear architecturally noteworthy to today's observer, but the collection of Nickell's armories can be viewed as historically significant in being a physical manifestation of the Cold War, Joe Nickell's prolific term, and the growing partnership between the military and civilian communities.



## Kansas Historical Markers Booklet Available

Copies of the guidebook *Kansas Historical Markers* can be picked up at no cost at the Kansas History Center as well as at any of the state historic sites managed by the Kansas State Historical Society. The colorful 43-page book identifies the 117 historical markers erected along Kansas highways by the Kansas Department of Transportation and the Kansas State Historical Society.

These markers tell stories of Kansas landforms and landmarks, communities, trails, commerce, missions, forts, and Civil War sites. A map of the state is included in the guide along with images of many of the markers, descriptions of locations, and the text of each sign. The guide also groups markers into categories.

Funding for the publication was provided by the Transportation Enhancements program of the Federal Highway Administration through the Kansas Department of Transportation.

Mail requests can be directed to *Historical Markers Guide*, Kansas State Historical Society, 6425 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Topeka, KS 66615-1099. These requests should be accompanied by a check payable to Kansas State Historical Society for \$2.50 to cover postage and handling.

# Staff Attend NCSHPO Conference

Historic Preservation Office staff members Carl Magnuson and Christy Davis attended the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO) annual meeting in Washington, D.C., March 16-20, 2002.

The first day of the conference, Magnuson participated in an all-day committee meeting on the allocation of federal Historic Preservation Funds. "Marketing historic preservation" was the theme of many sessions.

The visit culminated in meetings with the Kansas legislative delegation. Davis and Magnuson met with U. S. Congressmen Dennis Moore and Jim Ryun and with staff assistants for Congressmen Todd Tiarht and Jerry Moran. They also met with staff from the offices of Senators Sam Brownback and Pat Roberts. Magnuson and Davis discussed the successes of the division's programs as well as the critical issues faced by State Historic Preservation Offices nationwide.



*Christy Davis (left) and Carl Magnuson (right) met with Congressman Dennis Moore while attending the March 2002 meeting of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers in Washington, D.C.*

## Contacting the Cultural Resources Division Staff

Listed to the right are the personnel of the Cultural Resources Division as of August 1, 2002, with telephone extensions and e-mail addresses. All may be reached by telephoning (785)272-8681 and dialing the extension number. fax materials should be sent to the appropriate person's attention at (785)272-8682.

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Bruce Wrightsman	Architect	227	bwrightsman@kshs.org
Virginia Wulfkuhle	Public Archeologist	255	vwulfkuhle@kshs.org



## KSHS Has New Director

Mary Allman began her tenure as the executive director of the Kansas State Historical Society on June 3. She replaced Dr. Ramon Powers who retired in March.

Allman, who was appointed by Gov. Bill Graves, came to the Kansas State Historical Society from Littleton, Colorado, where she had been the director of the Littleton Historical Museum since 1998. Previously she served as director of the Siouxland Heritage Museums in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

A Michigan native, she has a B.A. in History of Art from Michigan State University and an M.A. in Teaching and Museum Education from George Washington University.

As the executive director, she is also by statute the state historic preservation officer.

# Happenings in Kansas

**“Everyone Needs a Hobby: Kansas Collectors and Collecting”**  
August 2 - December 31, 2002  
Special Exhibits Gallery  
Kansas Museum of History  
6425 S.W. Sixth Avenue  
Topeka, KS

**Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review Quarterly Meeting**  
August 24, 2002  
Kansas History Center Classrooms  
6425 S.W. Sixth Avenue  
Topeka, KS

**Unmarked Burial Sites Regulations Hearing**  
September 17, 2002  
Public hearing on proposed regulations for the Unmarked Burial Sites Preservation Board.  
10 a.m. until noon  
West Conference Room, Center for Historical Research  
Kansas History Center  
6425 S.W. Sixth Avenue  
Topeka, KS

**“Sin and the American Roadside” Annual Conference of the Society for Commercial Architecture**  
September 25 - 28, 2002  
Reno, NV

**“Cities, Suburbs & Countryside” National Preservation Conference**  
October 8 - 13, 2002  
Cleveland, OH  
For details check  
[www.nthpconference.org](http://www.nthpconference.org)

**60th Annual Plains Anthropological Conference**  
October 23-26, 2002  
Biltmore Hotel  
Oklahoma City, OK

**National Sacred Trusts Conference**  
October 24 - 26, 2002  
Washington National Cathedral  
Washington, D.C.

**Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review Quarterly Meeting**  
November 2, 2002  
Kansas History Center Classrooms  
6425 S.W. Sixth Avenue  
Topeka, KS

**Historic Preservation Grant Application Deadline**  
November 15, 2002  
See page 8.

**Heritage Trust Fund Grant Application Deadline**  
March 1, 2003  
See page 8.



### KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

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