

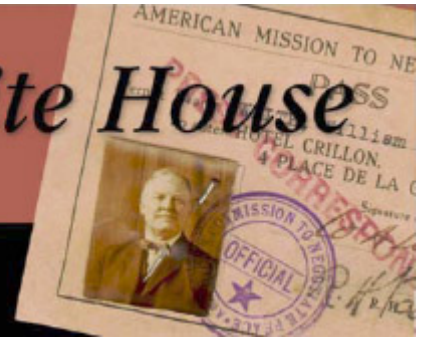


William Allen White House

STATE HISTORIC SITE



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY



WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE HOUSE STATE HISTORIC SITE

The William Allen White House State Historic Site is the only 20th century site administered by the Kansas Historical Society. The house was home to Pulitzer Prize-winning author, William Allen White, and his family.

Portions of the house appear as it did in the 1920s during the time White was known to the nation as the “Sage of Emporia,” and editor of the *Emporia Gazette*. Visitors will connect with the stories of his two Pulitzer Prizes, “To An Anxious Friend,” extolling freedom of discussion, and his autobiography. White also gained national attention for his editorials, “What’s the Matter With Kansas?,” addressing the Populist movement, and “Mary White,” an ode to his teenage daughter who had been killed in a horseback riding accident. White shared his political opinions with the nation and even campaigned for Kansas governor in 1924 to fight the Ku Klux Klan.

In 2001 the state of Kansas accepted the William Allen White House into the state system to operate as a state historic site. The house, located at 927 Exchange in Emporia, remained in the White family until the 2001 transfer. Federal funding provided for interior and exterior restoration of the Emporia landmark.

The Veterans Administration and Department of Housing and Urban Development appropriation provided Economic Development Initiative monies in the amount of \$698,460 for the restoration. The work included provisions for ADA accessibility; repairing, cleaning, and repointing the masonry; and interior restoration, and work on the roof of White’s mother’s house at 923 Exchange. The adjacent visitor center was completed in 2003.

First constructed in the late 1880s, the Whites rented the home in 1899 and purchased it July 1901. The house was altered after a fire in 1920. The massive stone, brick, and half-timbered structure in the Tudor style served as White’s home for 45 years. The south side of the house opens onto a series of terraces and gardens. The house, a National Historic Landmark, contains many furnishings and belongings used by the family. Visitors will learn about the White family’s life and how William Allen White became a nationally recognized figure.

The William Allen White House State Historic site is one of 16 administered by the Kansas Historical Society, which is headquartered at 6425 SW 6th Avenue, Topeka, KS 66615; 785-272-8681; TTY 785-272-8683; kshs.org.