



NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Historical Society
6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka KS 66615-1099
785-272-8681

REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES.

Contacts:

Bobbie Athon • 785-272-8681, ext. 262 • bathon@kshs.org
Teresa Jenkins • 785-272-8681, ext. 263 • tjenkins@kshs.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 1, 2009 (for Atchison area media only)

NEW GRANT FUND AVAILABLE FOR ATCHISON PRESERVATION PROJECTS

**\$450,000 available through Amelia Earhart Bridge Mitigation Fund –
Application Deadline May 15, 2009**

TOPEKA, KS— The Kansas Historical Society announced the availability of the Amelia Earhart Bridge Mitigation Fund for historic preservation projects in Atchison. This fund was established as partial mitigation for the planned demolition of the National Register-eligible Amelia Earhart Memorial Bridge that will be replaced by a new four-lane bridge. The purpose of the fund is to foster and support the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and interpretation of historic resources within Atchison. Approximately \$450,000 will be available until expended through the grant process. A maximum of \$100,000 will be awarded per project. A minimum match of 10% is required of the applicant. Any additional match that can be provided by the applicant will be taken into consideration by the review committee. The application deadline is May 15, 2009. Award recipients will be announced in June 2009. More information, including program applications, can be found at kshs.org/resource/aebridgemitigationfund.htm. Additional assistance is available by calling the State Historic Preservation Office staff at 785-272-8681, ext. 240.

Unlike other grant programs that provide funding on the front end of a project, this is a reimbursement program. The project sponsor must pay for work as completed and is reimbursed when bills are submitted to the SHPO, less the matching percentage. Any restoration or rehabilitation work must comply with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*. <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/standguide/>.

There are three categories of eligible projects, which include: historic properties within the corridor of the Amelia Earhart Bridge project; historic preservation projects outside the corridor but within the city limits of Atchison that have a connection or link to transportation; and non-rehabilitation projects such as museum displays for bridge or transportation-related history, funding for speakers on historic bridge rehabilitation, or peer exchanges at historic preservation conferences. Public agencies, 501(c)(3) and other nonprofit organizations, and private property owners are eligible to apply for this reimbursement program.

The Kansas Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs. The Historical Society requests prior notification to accommodate individuals with special needs or disabilities.

--END--