



NEWS RELEASE

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REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNOUNCES CHANGES AT STATE HISTORIC SITES

TOPEKA, KS—The Kansas Historical Society announced that as a result of state budget cuts, two state historic sites will begin operating as drive-through sites and two others will operate only during the summer tourism season. Cottonwood Ranch State Historic Site in Studley will become a drive-through site September 5, 2009, and Native American Heritage Museum State Historic Site near Highland has already become a drive-through site. These buildings at the sites will not be open to the public, but exterior interpretive signs will tell visitors the history of the buildings and the people that lived there. Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic Site near Pleasanton and Hollenberg Pony Express Station State Historic Site near Hanover will become seasonal sites, open from the first Tuesday in April through the first Saturday in September.

The Historical Society, a state agency, has experienced a 17 percent budget reduction over the past two years. The changes at the historic sites are part of a larger plan that has resulted in agency-wide programming cuts and the elimination of positions.

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.

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