

KANSAS HISTORY

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of the
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Kansas State Historical Society

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THE KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY was organized in 1875 by the newspaper editors and publishers of the state, and four years later it became the official trustee for the state's historical collections. Since then, the Society has operated both as a non-profit membership organization and as a specially recognized society supported by appropriations from the state of Kansas.

The purposes of the Society are the advancement of knowledge about and the preservation of resources related to the history and prehistory of Kansas and the American West, accomplished through educational and cultural programs, the provision of research services, and the protection of historic properties. The Society is governed by a ninety-nine-member board of directors, elected by the membership, and is administered by an executive director and an assistant executive director.

The new Kansas Museum of History features exhibits and educational programs based on the Society's rich artifact collections. It is located near the historic Pottawatomie Baptist Mission west of Topeka, adjacent to Interstate 70. All other Society departments remain at the Center for Historical Research, Memorial Building, across the street from the State Capitol in Topeka.

All persons interested in Kansas history and prehistory are cordially invited to join the Society. Those who would like to provide additional support for the Society's work may want to consider contributions in the form of gifts or bequests. A representative of the Society will be glad to consult with anyone wishing to make such a gift or establish a bequest or an endowment. Address the Executive Director, 120 West Tenth Street, Topeka, Kansas 66612-1291.

Cover: In February 1899 the Twentieth Kansas saw action in the Philippines as the town of Caloocan was taken against the insurgents. The Kansas troops' participation was recorded in the *Harper's* color lithograph shown on the cover of this issue of *Kansas History*. A *Harper's* correspondent with U. S. troops in the campaign wrote: "As for Kansas, they fought their way straight along the Caloocan road. Swamps and jungles barred the passage.... But those fellows from Kansas, under Colonel Funston, did not seem to mind it much." Frederick Funston, pictured on the back cover, is well known as commander of the Twentieth Kansas, but his role as a military district commander on Luzon is less recognized. This issue of *Kansas History* examines that aspect of Funston's career.

This issue also features two articles that focus on the people who were a part of Kansas' oil boom years, and the fourth article presented here revives the message of the Santa Fe agricultural demonstration trains.

You will notice a new section in *Kansas History*. "Kansas Bookshelf" includes books that in some way portray Kansas history and subjects. The "Bookshelf" is a listing of Kansas town, county, and church histories; historical records; and other Kansas subjects. It does not replace the "Bookends" in the *Mirror*, the Society's newsletter; it is intended to be an additional source of information for those interested in Kansas-related books. Publications received by the Historical Society's library will be listed either in "Kansas Bookshelf" or in the *Mirror's* "Bookends."

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