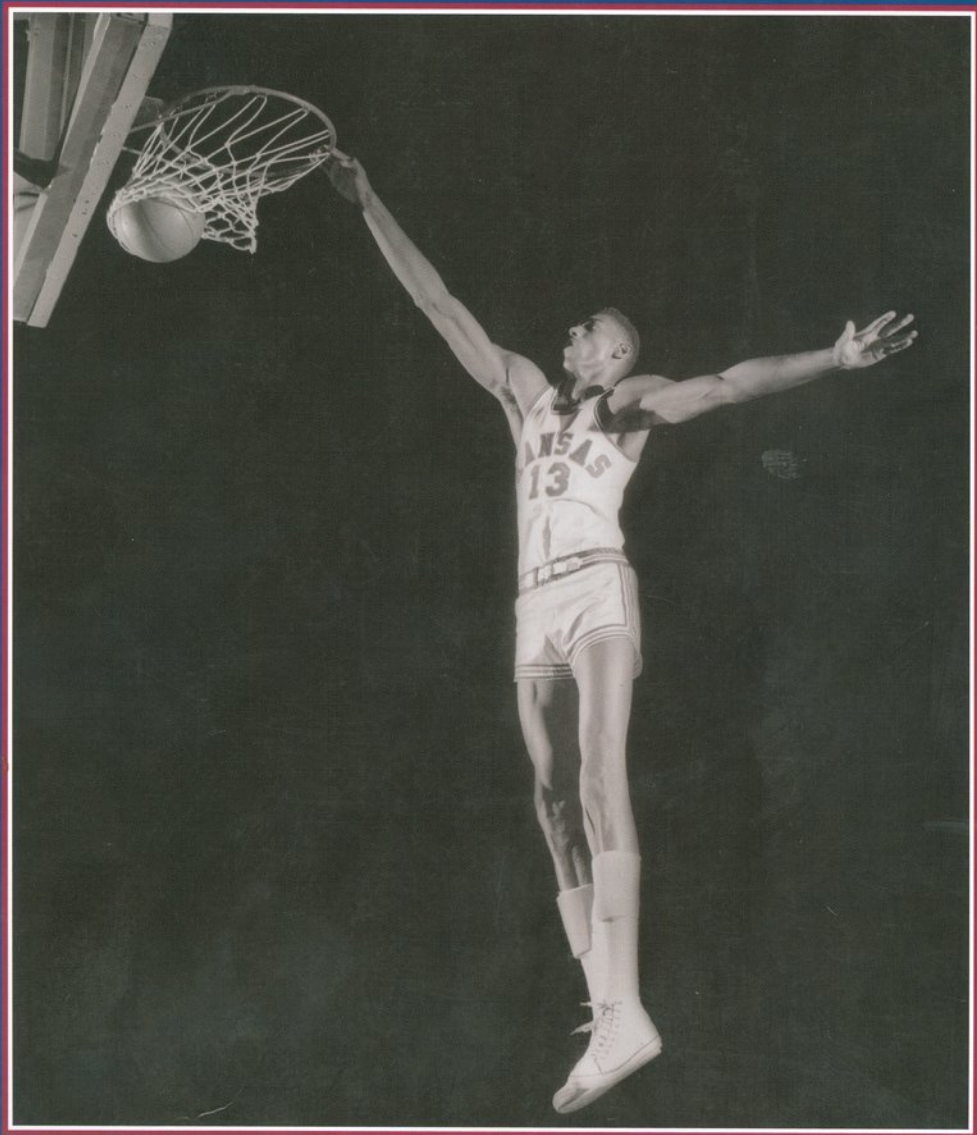


# KANSAS HISTORY

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# KANSAS HISTORY

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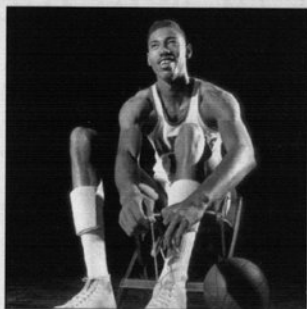
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COVER: Basketball star Wilt Chamberlain demonstrates his famous dunk at the University of Kansas. BACK COVER: Chamberlain returns to KU in 1998 when his jersey is retired. An article on Chamberlain's years in Kansas begins on page 150.

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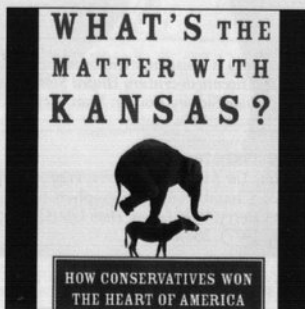
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*Amelia Earhart's birthplace, 223 North Terrace Street, Atchison, Kansas.*

*Without doubt America's most storied female aviator, Amelia Mary Earhart was born July 24, 1897, in the comfortable Atchison home of her grandparents, Judge Alfred G. and Amelia Harres Otis. The young Earhart, the daughter of Amy Otis and Edwin Stanton Earhart, split her growing up years between Kansas City, Kansas, where her father worked as a railroad attorney, and Atchison, before the family moved to Des Moines, Iowa, in 1908. Earhart, who disappeared while flying over the Pacific Ocean in 1937, first gained flight notoriety in 1928 as a passenger on a trans-Atlantic airplane—the first woman to make such a flight; four years later she became the first woman to make that flight as a pilot.*

*Earhart's birthplace, a wood-frame, Gothic Revival cottage, was built in 1861 for Otis, a prominent Atchison attorney originally from New York and Michigan. A Democrat, Otis had moved to the Missouri River town a year after Kansas became a territory and in 1860 entered into a legal practice with George W. Glick, years later the state's ninth, and first Democratic, governor. Otis was elected district court judge in 1876 and actively engaged in banking and other business interests. Now the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum (<http://www.ameliaearhartmuseum.org>), the historic house was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1971 and is owned and operated by the Ninety-Nines, an international organization of licensed women pilots.*



