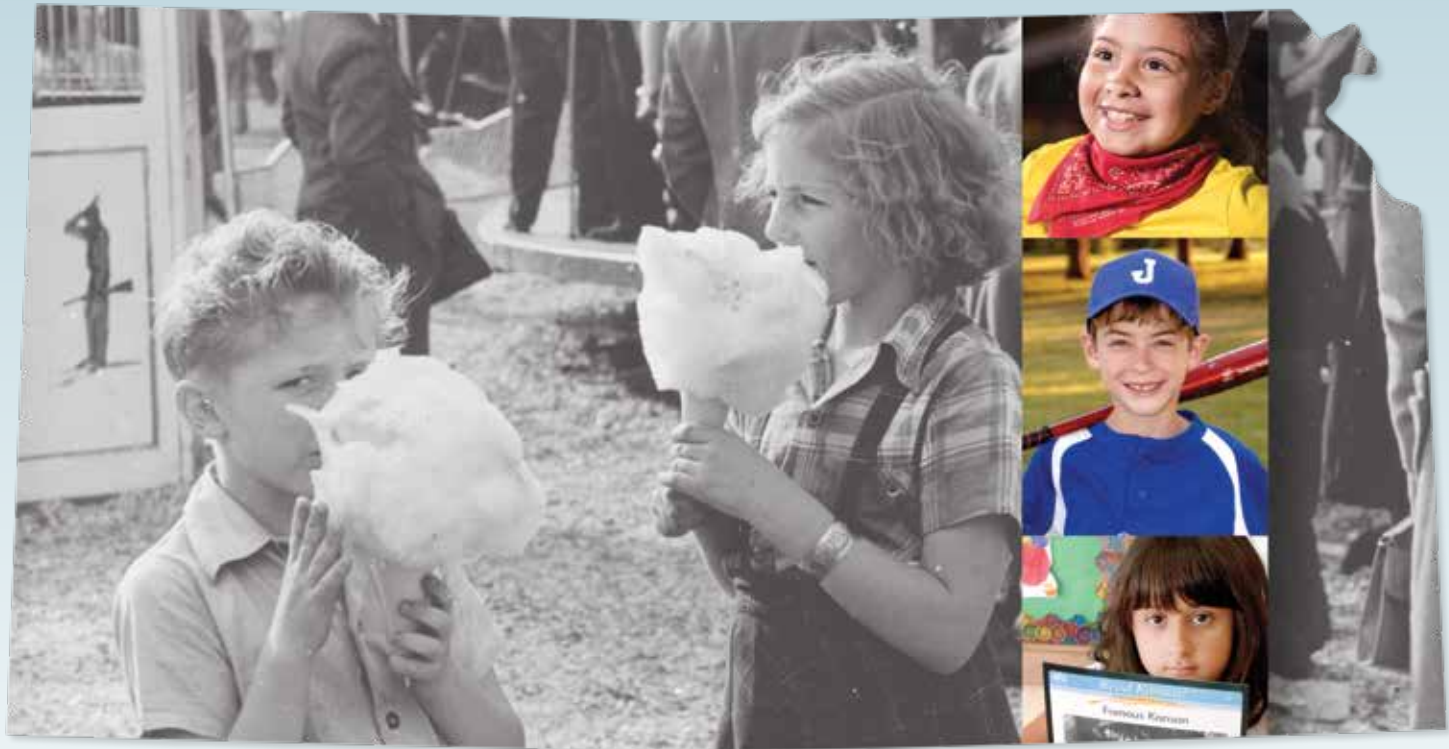


A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE

Future of Kansas



YOUR
STORIES
OUR
HISTORY

KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Please join us!

After 35 years the Kansas Museum of History is changing its exhibits to honor those who have come before us. With the goals to educate and inspire, it is time to tell the stories of Kansas in a way that resonates in the 21st century. There is much to learn from the past that can help us navigate into the future. The past can be exciting, relevant, and thought-provoking with new exhibits at the Kansas Museum of History.



Why is this project different?

- Using the past to explore solutions to problems in the modern world
- Emphasizing cause and effect, rather than chronology
- Analyzing documents and artifacts to learn from others
- Engaging current technologies to enhance and extend the learning experience
- Encouraging civic involvement by focusing on what connects us
- Providing opportunities for both empathy and amusement
- Enhancing communication techniques to connect to different learning styles
- Placing visitors at the center of our history with opportunities to give opinions and tell stories



Be part of an innovative project that could change our views of ourselves and teach the next generation the value of being a Kansan.

STORIES OF KANSAS BLEEDING KANSAS

Kansas was born into a nation divided over slavery. Kansans used the ballot box to decide whether this would be a slave or free state.

The turmoil between antislavery and proslavery settlers led to bloodshed, radicalizing abolitionist John Brown and bringing Abraham Lincoln out of political retirement. These events in Kansas Territory ignited the flames of civil war, shaping the future of the nation.



Step to the front of the stage and deliver one of Abraham Lincoln's speeches against the spread of slavery into Kansas. The crowd will respond to you as they did to Lincoln.



*Feel the power of
civic engagement.*



STORIES OF KANSAS GATHERING OF CULTURES

Hunting mammoths and camels was part of life in Kansas at the end of the Ice Age. Over time people of different cultures encountered each other. Indian tribes from the east forced to relocate here displaced Plains tribes.

Spanish explorers and French traders found their way to Kansas, while Americans asserted their belief in manifest destiny through military forts and overland trails. By the time Kansas became a state many cultures had gathered here, making the territory the crossroads of America.

Immerse yourself in an archeological excavation of a 200-year-old Kansa village. This village of 700, led by Chief Ka-he-ga-wa-ta-ne-ga, was located between the Kansas River and Soldier Creek. White settlers encroached on their already diminished lands, changing dramatically the way of life for the Kansa.





Unearth artifacts that reflect trade networks and evidence that communities under stress fought back, adapting and continuing to maintain their culture.



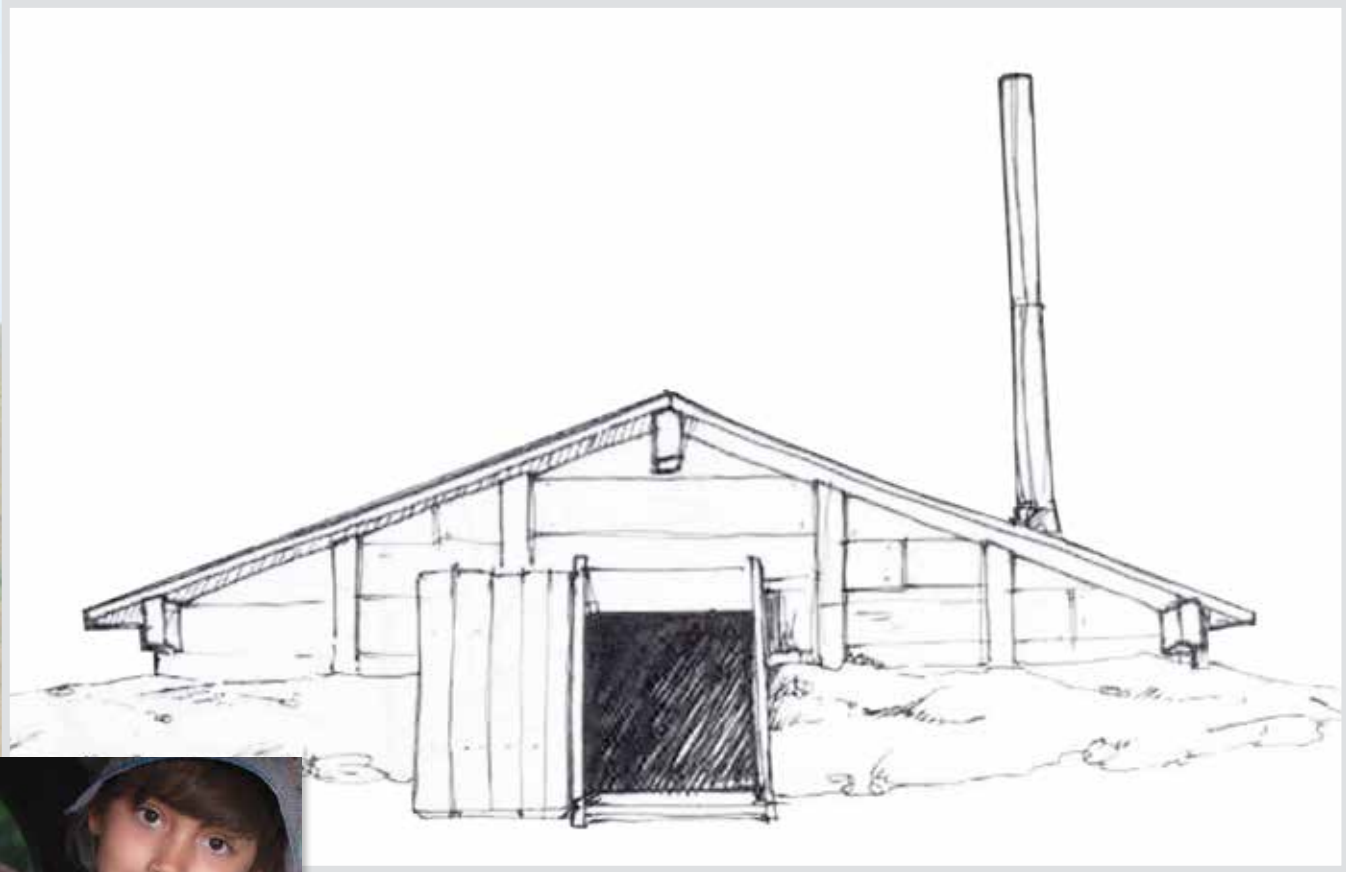
STORIES OF KANSAS MAKING A HOME

Before Kansas Territory was open for settlement, the only legal residents living here were Indians, missionaries, and the U.S. military.

During the four decades following statehood our population grew by more than 90 percent. More than 1.4 million people, recruited by the state and the railroads, came streaming into Kansas. Under the Homestead Act any citizen, or a person intending to become one, could claim 160 acres of public land, live on it for five years, and become the owner.

Step into a fully furnished dugout in southwest Kansas where trees are scarce, but dirt is plentiful. Your family of eight has staked your claim and built your house of natural resources. At any time snakes and rodents are likely to fall through the roof.





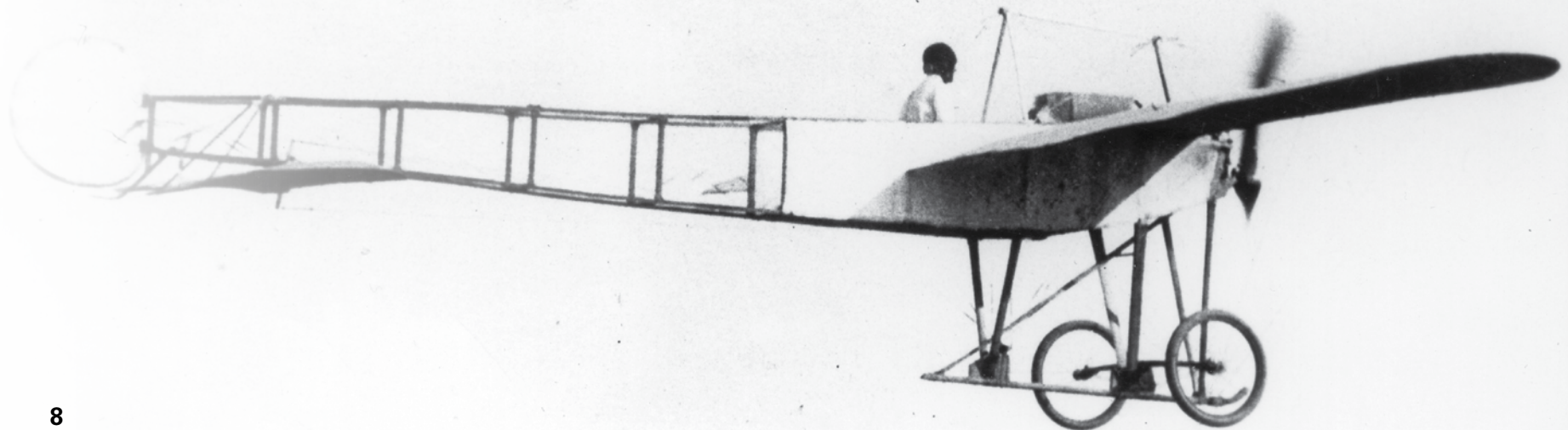
Now it's time to arrange the furniture and belongings you hauled from the East. For better or worse, you can step into the midst of history.

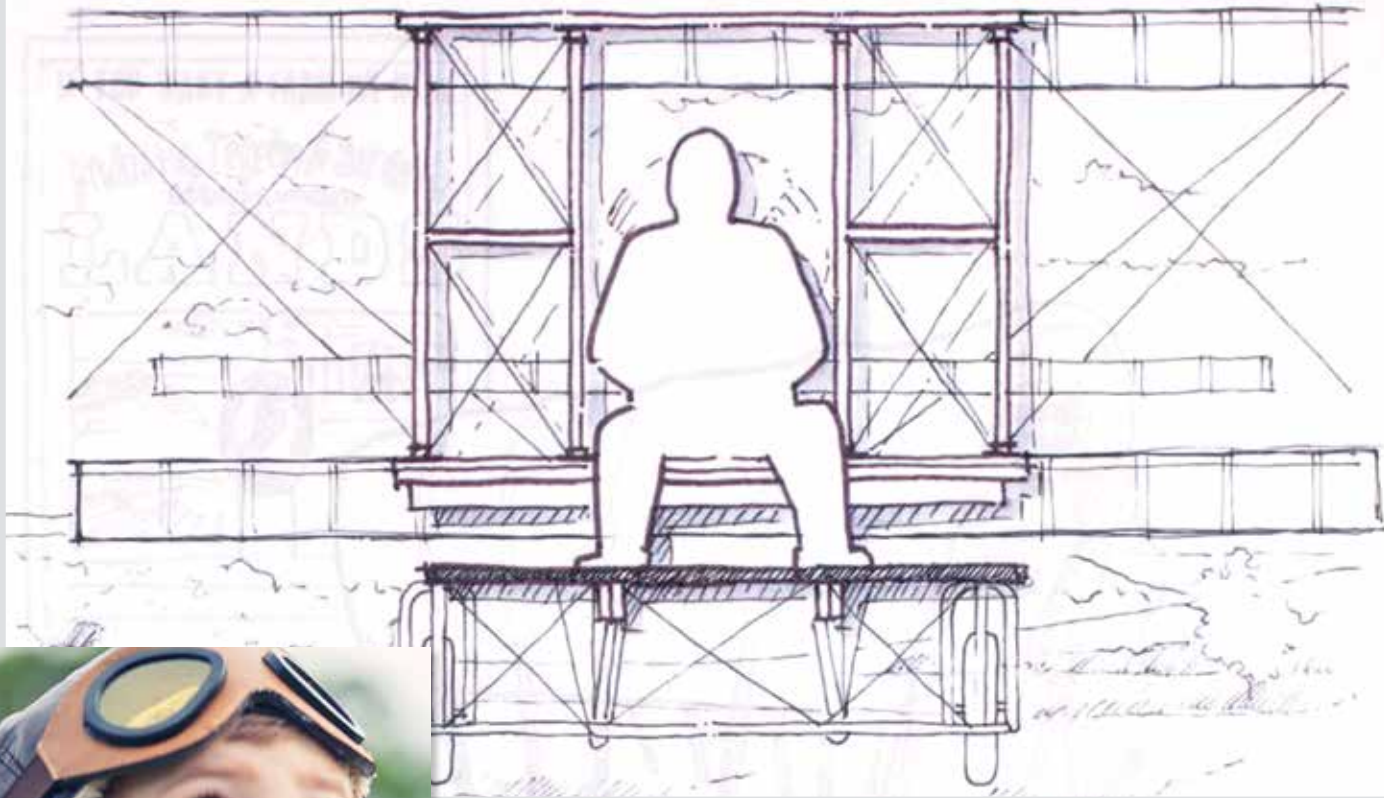
STORIES OF KANSAS MAKING A LIVING

Huge fish, swimming birds, and prehistoric plants once occupied a shallow saltwater sea that covered Kansas.

This geological beginning created the oil, gas, helium, and salt industries. It also left us fertile soil and grasslands that make Kansas a leading economy in agriculture and cattle. The big skies of Kansas nurtured an important aviation center and the geographic location made it a transportation hub. The interactions of humans and nature have given us great successes and many challenges, including the Dust Bowl, grasshopper plaques, and the depletion of underground aquifers.

Clyde Cessna looked out from the cockpit of his wooden monoplane he called Silverwing, for its shiny body. It was fragile, made of spruce and linen. Taking a deep breath, Cessna motioned for his brother to turn the propeller. When the engine fired, Cessna adjusted the throttle then bounced as he was attempting take off. Cessna lost control as the plane went into a spin and crashed into a ditch. He crashed 12 times before becoming a successful aviator and entrepreneur. Pilot Silverwing and ponder crashing so many times before achieving success.





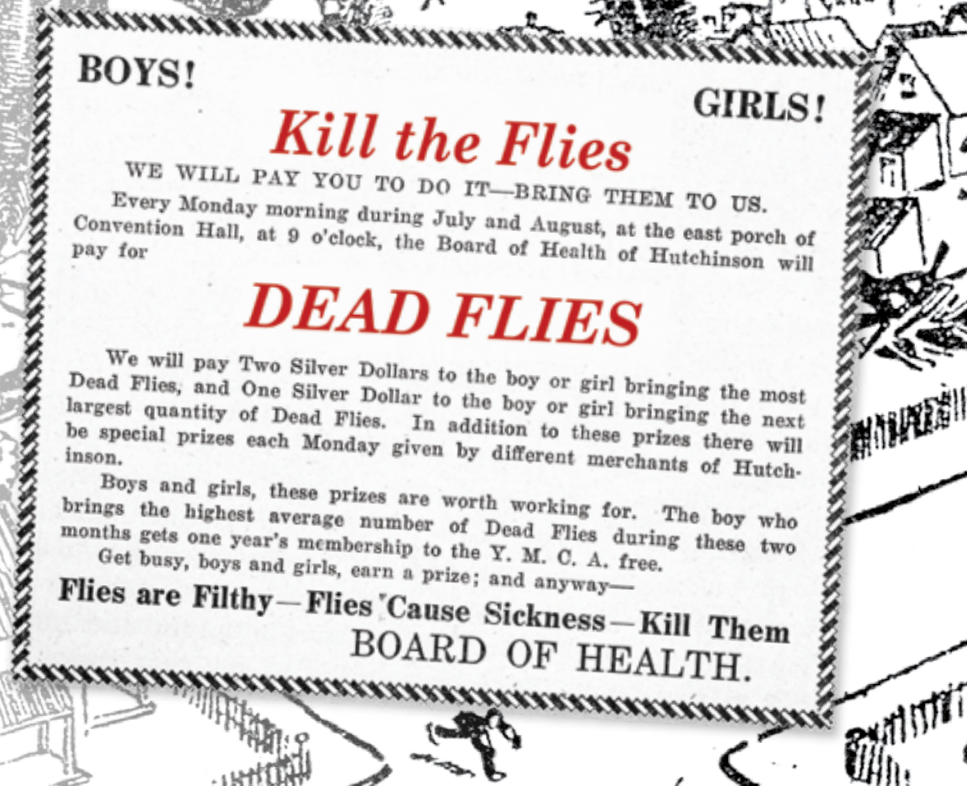
Do you have the right stuff?

STORIES OF KANSAS IT HAPPENS FIRST IN KANSAS

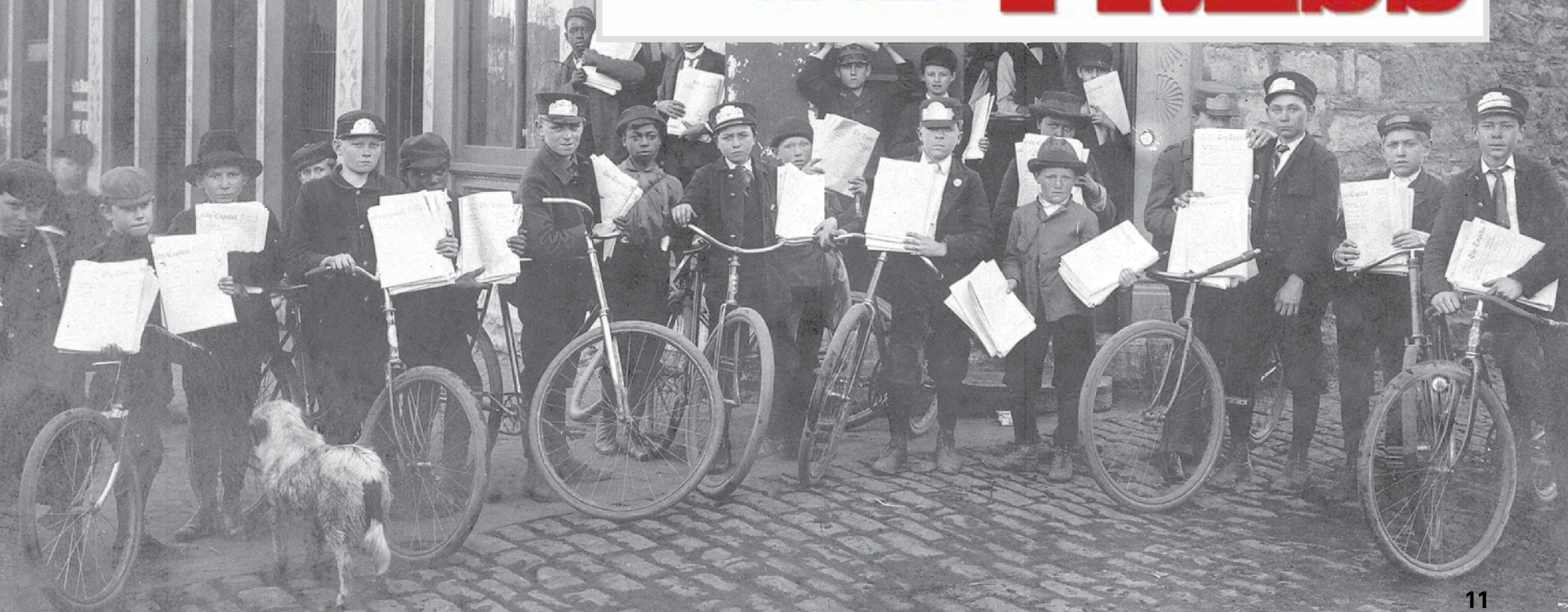
“When anything is going to happen in this country, it happens first in Kansas,” spilled out of the *Emporia Gazette* presses.

And so it was! Kansas women received full voting rights eight years before the 19th amendment. Kansas was first to place prohibition in the constitution. With the words “separate but equal is inherently unequal” the U.S. Supreme Court struck down school segregation based in part on a Kansas case. Kansans used the power of their words and actions to change society.

People did not know what caused disease before Dr. Samuel Crumbine popularized the flyswatter. He urged them to “swat the fly” to fight the spread of disease. His campaigns brought smiles, fright, and praise to alter our lifestyles. Learning more about public health by trying your hand at a carnival game. See how many flies you can swat! Your prize is a path to better health.



Read all about it!



STORIES OF KANSAS: MAKING HISTORY

Everyone has a story to tell. Kansas history is a collection of individuals narratives.

As her Aunt Anna braided and twisted threads into lace, the singing sound of the bobbin moving back and forth enthralled young Sonia Domsch. Growing up in Atwood she would sit for hours watching the artistry from her Czech family tradition. As an adult Domsch became serious about traditional skills, connecting with makers around the world. As a master artist she mentored younger apprentices, becoming one of the nation's most celebrated bobbin lace artists.

Step into a hall with large digital changing images—the faces of Kansans, their voices, accomplishments, and personal items. Picture President Dwight Eisenhower, photographer Gordon Parks, and those less recognized like Sonia Domsch.

Place your own pictures and stories along with these other Kansans!





John Steuart Curry
Muralist – Artist



Little Deer Lucy Tayiah Eads
Kansa Indian chief



Amelia Earhart
Aviator – Adventurer



Dwight Eisenhower
General – President



Xavia Hightower Howard
Funeral Home Proprietor



William Inge
Playwright



Emily Morgan
Angel of the Yukon



Gordon Parks
Photographer – Director



Susanna Salter
First Female Mayor



Benjamin Singleton
Colonizer



Concepcion Viallafranco
Mother



Your Story

KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

- 1875** Founded in a room, Kansas State Capitol
- 1914** Move to Memorial Hall, east of Capitol
- 1984** Kansas Museum of History opens state-of-the-art galleries in west Topeka, gains national reputation for quality
- Today** Hundreds of thousands of Kansans have visited Museum. We have an opportunity to create a new visitor experience so unique it will encourage repeat visits
- 2022** New exhibits coming



Kansas is among a handful of states founded for a cause. With the events of Bleeding Kansas fresh in their minds, our ancestors created the Kansas Historical Society to preserve these stories for those yet to be born. They knew Kansas' role in history was like no other. They left us a legacy to ensure we remember the past as we move forward into the future.

Only the Kansas Historical Society is dedicated to the interpretation of the entire breadth of Kansas history. The agency began collecting this history (artifacts, documents, newspapers, photographs) shortly after statehood. Our extensive archeology collections represent native peoples who populated the region before statehood. We also administer state historic sites; offices of state archeologist, state archivist, and state historic preservation. We are the largest creator of K-12 curriculum materials on Kansas history, government, economics, and geography.

The Kansas Historical Society provides digital access to its collections and programs, and in-person at facilities across the state. Each year the organization hosts 14,000,000 visits.





Help us complete the journey!

If You Love Kansas

We have a profound love for Kansas, her past and her future. Our hope is for Kansas schoolchildren and families to share our pride in this history. That is why we have given our support to the Kansas Historical Society through the Kansas Historical Foundation.

If you love Kansas the way we love the state, then ask to become involved in this project. Your support will help inspire the next generation to feel the pride we do in Kansas. Extend your generosity to help fund this \$7 million project for the Kansas Museum of History to build innovative exhibits and an endowment to instill pride for generations to come.

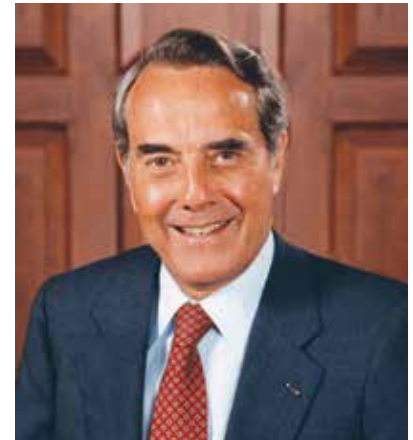
Thank you for your support!



Nancy Landon Kassebaum
Campaign Co-Chair



Bob Dole
Campaign Co-Chair





HONOR
EDUCATE
INSPIRE

**KANSAS
HISTORICAL
FOUNDATION**

YOUR
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