



NEWS RELEASE

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REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PUBLIC INVITED TO SHARE ARTIFACTS, EXPLORE ABOLITIONIST COMMUNITY DURING KANSAS ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH

Note to media - "archeology" vs. "archaeology" - although both spellings are correct, the Kansas Historical Society's official style calls for the modern spelling (archeology). The Professional Archaeologists of Kansas, sponsor of Kansas Archaeology Month, uses the traditional spelling (archaeology) and we use that spelling in references regarding their organization and programs as a professional courtesy.

TOPEKA, KS—The Kansas Historical Society announced that as part of its Kansas Archaeology Month celebration in April, it will offer three opportunities for the public to learn more about the field.

- Discover Kansas Archaeology event - 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 2, Topeka Shawnee County Public Library. Explore historic and prehistoric artifacts, watch a live flintknapping demonstration to see how stone tools were made by Native Americans, examine archeologist's tools, and learn about volunteer opportunities with the Kansas Anthropological Association. This free event is open to the public and is co-sponsored by the Kansas Historical Society, Professional Archaeologists of Kansas, and the Kansas Anthropological Association. No registration required.
- Artifact Identification Booth at the History and Environmental Fair – 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Thursday, April 21, Kansas Museum of History. As part of this annual event for schools, archeology staff from the Kansas Historical Society will be on hand to examine Native American artifacts. The public is invited to bring items for identification and conservation advice. No appraisals will be made. There will also be live demonstrations of artifact cataloging and flintknapping, the Native American craft of making chipped stone tools. This event is free and open to the public.
- Quindaro display – throughout April at the Kansas Historical Society's State Archives & Library Lobby. This display commemorates the 150th birthday of Kansas and Kansas Archaeology Month. Dr. Margaret Wood and her Washburn University students have researched and installed this exhibit about Quindaro, a community of abolitionists and activists established in 1857 in Kansas City. This exhibit is free and can be seen 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Saturday.

The Professional Archaeologists of Kansas is the lead organization in promoting Kansas Archaeology Month and posts an online calendar of events at ksarchaeo.info/calendar.shtml.

The Historical Society's archeology staff provides assistance to the public and public agencies on issues relating to archeological resources. Through seminars, conferences, publications, and the Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school, the agency works to document and preserve the rich history of Kansas and help others to do the same. This year's KATP field school will be conducted in June at a site in Pottawatomie County along the Big Blue River. Volunteers from across the state will converge on the site to take classes and do field work. Participants range from those curious about what happens at an archeological site to professionals who have been in the field for decades. For more information on any of these events or Kansas Archaeology Month contact Kansas Historical Society Public Archeologist Virginia Wulfkuhle at 785-272-8681 ext. 266 or vwulfkuhle@kshs.org.

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.