National Register Nominations

See story on page 6
Parker House Hotel Demolished

On June 7, 2013, the northeast corner of the Parker House Hotel collapsed. A structural engineer assessed the building and determined it to be structurally unstable and the building was demolished.

Listed in the Register of Historic Kansas Places on May 11, 2009, the two-story brick Parker House Hotel was built in 1887 at the east end of downtown Minneapolis. Topeka-based businessman Nathan F. Handy originally developed the property to serve several commercial purposes. The Corn State Bank operated out of the first floor for only a few years and various businesses including a grocery, millinery, and offices occupied other parts of the building. In 1889 the building was redeveloped by Isabelle Parker into a 26-room hotel and served this function until the mid-20th century when it was converted to apartments. In 2009 the building was threatened with demolition and a local group, Friends of Parker House, was formed to save and restore the former hotel. The Kansas Preservation Alliance listed the building in its Endangered Historic Places in 2009.

Environs Review Component of State Preservation Law Eliminated

On Thursday, May 30, 2013, Governor Sam Brownback signed HB 2249, which eliminates the environs review component from the state preservation law (K.S.A. 75-2724).

Previously, proposed projects within 500 feet of the boundaries of a historic property listed in the state or National Register of Historic Places located in a city or within 1,000 feet of the boundaries of a listed property located in an unincorporated portion of a county were subject to review by the State Historic Preservation Office for comment on whether the project “encroached upon, damaged, or destroyed” the environs of the listed property.

Projects that require a building permit on listed properties will continue to be reviewed under the state preservation law.

The new law is effective starting July 1, 2013. See the text of the law as it was approved: tinyurl.com/kn4dskk
2013 Kansas Preservation Alliance Awards for Excellence Announced

Each year the Kansas Preservation Alliance, Inc. (KPA) recognizes exemplary efforts in historic preservation across the state of Kansas. KPA has presented over 200 annual awards since its founding in 1979. These awards have been presented to individuals, organizations, and institutions responsible for exemplary preservation projects in 70 different communities in Kansas. The properties recognized have included houses, ranches, farms, schools, churches, courthouses, cemeteries, train depots, stores, bridges, banks, libraries, post offices, street improvements, landscapes, and neighborhoods. Rural properties, properties in small towns, and properties in urban areas have all received awards. In addition, advocacy awards have been presented to individuals, groups, and organizations for a variety of historic preservation efforts. Nominated projects must meet the intent of the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and the criteria for listing properties in the National Register of Historic Places. To be eligible for a KPA Award for Excellence, preservation work must be substantially completed by December 31 of the previous year.

by Todd Renyer
President, Kansas Preservation Alliance, Inc.

The 2013 Awards for Excellence were presented May 24 at the Kansas Preservation Alliance Awards ceremony at Memorial Hall in Topeka. The following projects received awards:

Medallion Award: Rehabilitation

Ambassador Hotel – Union National Bank Building, Wichita (Sedgwick County)
Since its completion in 1926, the Union National Bank building, which was financed by Chicago’s Edith Rockefeller McCormick Trust, has proudly occupied the intersection of Main and Broadway. The prominent fixture in Wichita’s skyline is perhaps best known for its contribution to Civil Rights history. In July 1958 a youth member of the Wichita NAACP was refused service at the buildings, Dockum Drug Store, which led to a sit-in to urge the chain to desegregate. Although nearly recognized, this protest inspired other sit-ins across the county and predated the better-known Greensboro, North Carolina, sit-in by two years. After three weeks of non-violent protest, the managers of Dockum Drug Store, which was the state’s largest drug store chain, desegregated all their lunch counters. The building had sat vacant for more than a decade, and many of the building’s character-defining features, including those tied to the Civil Rights era, had been lost. A $23 million

Left, Ambassador Hotel, Sedgwick County; from left to right, David Stauth, Wes Darnell, Christy Davis, Christine Johnston (KPA), and Rick Kready.
KANSAS PRESERVATION

Project converted the derelict building into a 117-room hotel with restaurant and meeting rooms. Missing terra cotta pieces were reconstructed, the storefront was restored and new double-hung enameled steel windows were installed. This work spurred an additional $40 million in public and private investment in the area. Federal and state historic preservation tax credits were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included Ambassador Hotel Collection LLC, Marketplace Properties, WDM Architects, Key Construction, and Davis Preservation.

Poehler Lofts, Lawrence (Douglas County)
Built as a four-story grocer distribution warehouse in 1904, the Poehler building has stood as one of the city’s most identifiable brick buildings of Lawrence’s east side. Given its ideal position adjacent to the railroad tracks, German immigrant Theodore Poehler built this warehouse to support his growing wholesale grocery business begun in the late 1880s with his brother August Poehler. It is a good example of an early 20th century industrial building as its exterior façade has remained largely intact over the years. After sitting vacant for several years, the building was purchased in 2011 with a plan to convert it into usable living space. The project generated 49 living units while maintaining the building’s original industrial character by cleaning and polishing existing concrete floors, exposing heavy timber wood structure, and cleaning the brick walls.

Federal and state historic preservation tax credits were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included East Lawrence Historic Partners LP, Rosemann & Associates, Rau Construction, and Rosin Preservation LLC.

Building Controls and Services, Inc., Luling’s City Laundry, Wichita (Sedgwick County)
The Luling’s City Laundry building was constructed in 1924 with an addition completed in 1936. Original newspaper articles lauded the company’s industrial advances with a water softener that promised “clothing washed in softened water has a sweet-smelling freshness that is a constant delight.” Ironically the 1936 expansion coincided with the home washing machine industry’s eclipse of the industrial laundry market. Luling’s eventually closed in 1961 and was later leased to the locally-owned business of Fisher Transmission, Inc. Building Controls and Services, Inc.’s $1.2 million project included removing unsightly suspended acoustical tile ceilings to expose steel trusses and clerestory windows along with their exposed mechanical operators. The building was rehabilitated as office space in a way that was compatible with its historic industrial use. The rehabilitation has inspired other property owners along East Douglas, who have formed the Douglas Design District to encourage the investment and promotion of approximately 300 businesses between Washington and Oliver.

Federal and state historic preservation tax credits were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

Honor Award: Rehabilitation

**Fort Leavenworth Building 427 Rehabilitation, Riverside Apartments, Leavenworth, (Leavenworth County)**

Built as a Progressive-Era Commercial Style building functioning as the married officer’s quarters in 1921, Building 427 has seen minor physical modifications to its simple four-and-a-half story rectangular plan over the years. Utilizing the building’s existing layout, an open office plan was designed while retaining the building’s original wood trim, doors and floors, terrazzo flooring, plaster walls, and brick fireplaces along with skylight and windows. All new mechanical, electrical, and piped services were installed in non-significant spaces. In addition, the existing load-bearing brick walls were post-tensioned to meet federal blast requirements.

The project team included Fort Leavenworth DPW, Fort Leavenworth CAC Office of the Deputy to the Commanding General US Army Combined Arms Center, Army Corp of Engineers/Kansas City District, GLMV, Spencer Preservation, Treanor Architects PA, Professional Engineering Consultants, and Dudley Williams.

**KCI Soccer Club, Kansas City High School Gymnasium and Laboratory, Kansas City (Wyandotte County)**

The three-story building was built in 1923 as part of the Kansas City High School campus. The gymnasium and laboratory facility was built across 9th Street from the high school and was connected by an underground tunnel. After a 1934 boiler room fire that destroyed the high school building on the far west edge of downtown Kansas City, the gymnasium and laboratory has stood alone, serving as a junior college until the late 1960s. The subsequent tenant, the Boilermaker’s Union, used it as a training facility. The 2012 rehabilitation converted the former basketball court and the over-decked indoor swimming pool facility into an indoor soccer facility. The lockers were retained and the principal character-defining features of the interior preserved. Exterior doors and stairs were retained and repainted, and the historic wood windows were restored.

Federal and state historic preservation tax credits were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included Foutch Brothers LLC, Historic Preservation Partners, Rosin Preservation LLC, Community National Bank in Basehor, and the Unified Government of Wyandotte.
Preservation Stewardship Award: Rehabilitation

Fairview Apartments, Wichita (Sedgwick County)
Built in an uncommon U-shape configuration, this 1924 low-rise apartment building borders downtown Wichita’s north end industrial region. The rehabilitation included brick cleaning, re-pointing of deteriorated mortar, refurbishing of existing wood windows and replacement of missing wood windows, and installation of basement living units.

Federal and state historic preservation tax credits were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included Foutch Brothers LLC, Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, Midwest Housing Equity Group, Horizon Bank, Federal Home Loan Bank, National Funding Incorporated, Historic Preservation Partners, and Rosin Preservation LLC.

Preservation Stewardship Award: Window Restoration

McCormick School Museum, Wichita (Sedgwick County)
Originally built in 1890 with an addition constructed in 1910, the McCormick School is still owned and maintained by the Unified School District 259 of Wichita and is the oldest school in the city of Wichita. As part of an overall phased plan to restore and maintain the school for continued use, the historic wood window sashes, frames, and surrounds were restored. The next phase will restore the exterior doors and construct new wood storm windows.

Kansas State Rehabilitation Tax Credits and a Heritage Trust Fund grant were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included Sutherland Builders and Unified School District 259.

Preservation Stewardship Award: Rehabilitation

Murray Hill Senior Apartments – Murray Hill School, Chanute (Neosho County)
In 2009 the Unified School District 413 constructed a new Chanute Elementary School to consolidate four existing elementary schools, including the 1951 mid-century Modern-style Murray Hill Elementary School. With 30,580 square feet available on a four-acre site with existing utility infrastructure, the Murray Hill School was rehabilitated for senior housing. The distinctive glass-block-over-hopper-sash windows were retained to create vibrant naturally

McCormick School Museum, Sedgwick County, from left to right, Tim Sutherland, Jordan Barnes, and Liz Lumpkin (KPA).
lighted living units. Non-historic features, such as the walk-in freezer on the north side of the gymnasium, were removed to improve the streetscape appearance.

Federal and state historic preservation tax credits were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The project team included Foutch Brothers LLC, Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, Midwest Housing Equity Group, Horizon Bank, Federal Home Loan Bank, National Funding Incorporated, City of Chanute, Historic Preservation Partners, and Rosin Preservation LLC.

**Bailey Log House Rehabilitation and Stabilization – Wells P. Bailey House, Lyndon (Osage County)**

The Wells P. Bailey House was constructed circa 1870 for Wells P. Bailey, the brother of Lyndon co-founder Judge L. D. Bailey. The hewn-log residence was relocated in 1997 from a farmstead two miles east of Lyndon to the Lyndon City Park. The 18 foot by 27 foot structure was at risk of structural collapse. With partial funding from a Heritage Trust Fund grant and state rehabilitation tax credits, the building’s foundation was stabilized; logs that had deteriorated beyond repair were replaced with new hand-hewn logs from old growth oak; and the wooden window sashes, frames, and trim were repaired. Kansas state rehabilitation tax credits and a Heritage Trust Fund grant were utilized to fund this rehabilitation.

The Historic Sites Board of Review voted to forward 10 nominations to the Office of the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places in Washington, D.C., to be evaluated by its professional staff. The board held its regular quarterly meeting at the Kansas Historical Society in Topeka on Saturday, May 4, 2013. If staff members concur with the board’s findings, the properties will be included in the National Register. In other action, the board voted in favor of expanding the nomination boundaries of a current listed property, approved additional information to be added to the nomination of a listed property, approved the relocation of a listed bridge, and recommended the removal of one property from the Register of Historic Kansas Places.

by Sarah Martin
National Register Coordinator, Kansas Historical Society

**Belleville High School – 915 W 18th Street, Belleville, Republic County**
The residents of Belleville voted in favor of $115,000 in local bonds to finance the construction of a new high school in 1931. Wichita architect Samuel S. Voigt designed the Collegiate Gothic-style building, and Hoisington contractor Alex Helwig oversaw its construction. The school served as the public high school for 31 years and then as a junior high and middle school for another 51 years. The building embodies the traditional characteristics of the Collegiate Gothic style with its red brick exterior and stone detailing, multiple gable roofs, and pointed arches. At the time of its opening, the school’s design reflected the latest trends in school planning with separate auditorium and gymnasium spaces and specialized classrooms for the manual training and domestic science departments. It is nominated as part of the *Historic Public Schools of Kansas* multiple property nomination for its local significance in the areas of education and architecture.

**Naomi & Leona Apartment Buildings – 509 & 507 S Market Street, Wichita, Sedgwick County**
The Naomi and Leona Apartment Buildings were built in 1926 and 1927, respectively, by property developer and contractor Oliver J. Mourning. The buildings feature the same design and appearance. Mourning named the Leona apartments after his daughter and the Naomi apartments after his mother, but by 1939 the buildings had different owners and were known by different names. The identical brick buildings are two-stories each with a flat roof, full width one-story front porch, and a second-story balcony. Each building reflects the Neoclassical style, which is evident...
in the symmetrical façade and dentiled cornice. Located just five blocks south of Douglas Avenue, a main thoroughfare through Wichita’s central business district, the buildings featured 24 units, each with a fireplace, private bath, and kitchen amenities. Tenants were mostly single women, with some single men and married couples. The buildings are nominated as part of the *Residential Resources of Wichita* multiple property nomination for their local significance in the areas of architecture and community planning and development.

**Ellington Apartment Building – 514 S Main Street, Wichita, Sedgwick County**

Wichita developer and contractor John Wenzel built the Ellington Apartment Building at the height of an apartment construction boom in 1927. Architect Walter V. Street designed this two-story brick building, which exhibits restrained elements of the Neoclassical style. Located just five blocks south of Douglas Avenue, a main thoroughfare through Wichita’s central business district, the building featured 20 units each with private bath and kitchen amenities. Tenants generally included a mix of couples and singles. It is nominated as part of the *Residential Resources of Wichita* multiple property nomination for its local significance in the areas of architecture and its association with community planning and development.

**McNee Barns – Highway 50, three miles South of Elmdale, Chase County**

The McNee Barns are located in the Kansas Flint Hills in the west central portion of Chase County. The nominated property, which has been owned by the McNee family since 1916, includes four historic resources: a circa 1920 horse barn, a 1948 boxcar barn, a dry-laid stone fence, and an Aermotor windmill. The horse barn is characterized by its roof shape. It has a gable roof with one-story shed bays on the east and west sides forming a broken gable roofline. In addition to the original horse stalls, the interior of the barn features a loafing shed, two granaries, and a few cattle stalls and milking stanchions. The upper floor of the barn is a full-height haymow with a hay hood and hinged hay door at the north gable end. A second smaller barn is made of two parallel railroad boxcars with a gable-roof enclosing a center bay between the cars. The boxcars were obtained from the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway likely following World War II and placed on stone footings to serve as space for hay storage. The property is nominated as part of the *Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas* multiple property nomination for its local significance in the areas of agriculture and architecture.

**Abram Click Farmstead – 2030 Independence Avenue, Beloit, Mitchell County**

The Abram Click Farmstead is a collection of six historic farm resources located at the southeast corner of Kansas highway K-14 and U.S. 24 on the northwest edge of Beloit. Click, a Kentucky native, was living in the Beloit area as early as 1873, and his arrival was part of an influx of new residents into Mitchell County that occurred between 1870 and 1880. He received his patent for 40 acres in 1880, but he sold the improved land in 1883. The property continued to function as a farmstead through the 1980s. Today the farmstead is owned by the Mitchell County Historical Society and includes 6.8 acres with a limestone house, barn ruins, water tower, washhouse, granary, and outhouse ruins. The Gothic Revival house was constructed circa 1880 and features ornate window hoods, dressed sills, and quoins that are likely the work of Joseph Hill, a locally well-known 19th century stone
mason. The house is an excellent representation of early construction in Mitchell County. The later wood-frame washhouse, granary, and outhouse demonstrate the evolution of the farmstead into the early 20th century. The property is nominated as part of the Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas multiple property nomination for its local significance in the areas of agriculture and architecture.

Franklin Elementary School – 1403 Metropolitan Avenue, Kansas City, Wyandotte County
Argentine was a prosperous city in the late 1880s due to the influence of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe (ATSF) Railway and the Kansas City Consolidated Smelting and Refining Company. The location of the railroad played an important factor in W. N. Ewing’s decision to open a silver smelter, which caused the community to grow quickly. The school-age children of east Argentine attended Lowell School in the 1880s and 1890s, but the area’s growing population required additional classroom space. Franklin Elementary School opened in September 1898 and was occupied by four teachers and students in grades one through eight. Shortly after the school opened, the community fell on hard times when the smelter closed and the 1903 flood devastated the area. Argentine was annexed by Kansas City in 1910 and the school became a part of the Kansas City school district. A six-classroom addition was made in 1910 to accommodate the redistribution of students. The school closed in 1973. It is nominated as part of the Historic Public Schools of Kansas multiple property nomination for its local significance in the areas of education and architecture.

Cassius and Adelia Baker House – 609 Elm Street, Wamego, Pottawatomie County
Built in 1910, this Craftsman-style house was first home to Cassius and Adelia Baker, who had moved to Wamego in 1869. He was a prominent member of the local business community and was a founding member and president of the Commercial Club, a predecessor of the chamber of commerce. He also was active in civic affairs, serving as mayor of the city, township clerk, trustee, and treasurer. The couple had witnessed the development of Wamego from a small river town of a few hundred people to a thriving railroad center with nearly 2,000 residents. The Baker House is located one block west of the downtown and is an excellent example of a Craftsman-style residence. It is nominated for its local significance in the area of architecture.

Creed-Mills House – 219 N Maple Street, Douglass, Butler County
Melissa and Henry Creed purchased 80 acres and began construction on this house in 1894. Henry and his son Oscar farmed the land, and in later years Oscar subdivided and sold most of the acreage. Today the property contains less than two acres. Thomas and Charlene Mills purchased the property from the Creed family in 1970. The house is an excellent example of the Folk Victorian style, which was popular during the period between 1870 and 1900 in Kansas. The arrival of the railroads in the area made the availability of standardized dimensionally-cut lumber and mass-produced ornamental detailing available to the rural areas. For the Creed-Mills House, the National Folk form is expressed in its massing and the presence of multiple exterior doors, which occurs frequently on the Folk forms in certain regions. It is nominated for its local significance in the area of architecture.
Santa Fe Trail – Rice County Segment 2 (Fry Ruts) – Little River vicinity, Rice County

The Santa Fe Trail – Rice County Segment 2, also known as Fry’s Ruts, is a 13-acre remnant of the main route of the trail, which was active from 1821 until 1880, though the association of this site with the trail ends in 1866 with the coming of the railroad. This trail remnant was associated with the Little Arkansas River crossings about one mile northeast of this site. As the trail approached the river from the east, it split into two branches four miles to the east of the crossing; the branches converged a little more than one mile southwest of the crossing, immediately west of this site. This split of the main route was most likely due to the condition of the two crossings at the river, which were one-quarter mile apart. Scouts would ride ahead to determine which crossing was safest and least difficult to cross and direct the caravan accordingly. This site is nationally significant for its association with the transportation and commerce along the Santa Fe Trail and for its potential to yield important archeological information. It is nominated as part of the *Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail* multiple property nomination.

National Register of Historic Places – Boundary Amendment

Lower Cimarron Spring – Grant County

Lower Cimarron Spring was designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1960 under the name Wagon Bed Springs and was subsequently listed in the National Register, under the same name, in 1966. In 1998 Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt approved changing the name of the site in the NHL documentation to “Lower Cimarron Spring.” He also approved the changes to the original NHL documentation to include the expansion of the boundary from four to 195 acres. Because the National Register nomination was not updated concurrently with the revision to the NHL nomination, this amendment to the National Register nomination seeks to incorporate all of the changes from the 1998 NHL documentation, as well as add the Wagonbed [sic] Springs Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) marker and a 45.43-acre linear site to the northeast of the NHL boundary that includes several parallel swales as contributing resources. The total acreage of the Lower Cimarron Spring National Register nomination boundary will be 240.43 acres.
As a dependable source of water on a dangerously dry crossing on the Santa Fe Trail, Lower Cimarron Spring was a major landmark for trade caravans as they crossed the open plains of the trail from 1822 to 1868 in what is now southwest Kansas. The spring and its associated campground were on the trail's Cimarron Route, which was the original and principal route of the Santa Fe Trail. The spring signaled the western end of La Jornada, the arid desert plain between the Arkansas and Cimarron rivers. As the spring offered westbound travelers the first reliable source of water west of the Arkansas River crossings, it became a major resting point on the Santa Fe Trail. The spring’s reliable water also made it an important campground for the many American Indians who frequented the site, including the Kiowa, Comanche, Plains Apache, Cheyenne, and Arapaho. Lower Cimarron Spring is a historic archeological site that includes the spring, which is dry now, its associated campground, several remnants of the Santa Fe Trail, and the Wagonbed [sic] Springs DAR marker. The Cimarron River formed a natural boundary for the historic camping area associated with the spring, and archeological investigations have revealed a high concentration of Santa Fe Trail-related resources. It is nominated as part of the Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail multiple property nomination.

**National Register of Historic Places – Additional Information**

**William Allen White House – 923 & 927 Exchange Street, Emporia, Lyon County**

The William Allen White House was listed in the National Register on May 14, 1971, and designated an NHL on May 11, 1976. In 2002 the property was the subject of a Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) study. This amendment to the 1971 National Register nomination seeks to address key omissions, streamline it with the later NHL and HABS documentation, and note the property’s recent history. The criteria, areas of significance, period of significance, and level of significance remain the same.

William Allen White purchased the house at 927 Exchange Street in Emporia in 1899, and he resided there until his death in 1944. His mother, Mary Ann Hatten White, lived next door at 923 Exchange Street from about 1904 until her death in 1924. He was a journalist and author writing about American politics and social changes from Reconstruction to World War II. During his long and well-known career he operated *The Emporia Gazette*, and wrote fiction and non-fiction for popular publications, such as *McClure's, Harper's Weekly*, and *Saturday Evening Post*. White became a leader in the progressive movement and was an influential political advisor to several United States presidents, including Theodore Roosevelt. According to his biographer Sally Foreman Griffith, “By the time of his death in 1944, he was nationally known, and widely beloved, as an author, political leader, and social commentator.”

**National Register of Historic Places – Relocation Request**

**Doniphan County Waddell Truss Bridge – 1.7 miles east of Doniphan on Monument Road, Doniphan County**

The Doniphan County Waddell Truss Bridge was constructed about 1900. It spans 36 feet long, 20 feet wide, and the deck of the bridge rises 14 feet above the stream bed. The bridge is constructed of either wrought iron or steel. This structure is significant because it is the last remaining example of the Waddell “A” Truss design in Kansas, and it has retained a great degree of its integrity. The development of the Waddell “A” Truss in the late 19th and early 20th centuries allowed for spans of up to 75 feet compared to the King Post utilized before it, which could only span short distances. The bridge was listed in the National Register in 1990 as part of the Metal Truss Bridges in Kansas multiple property nomination for its design and construction significance.

Doniphan County, which owns and maintains the bridge, is requesting approval to move the Waddell Truss Bridge from its current location spanning a small creek on Monument Road (FAS 28) 1.7 miles northeast of Doniphan to the Troy City Park at 408 W. Myrtle Street. Ownership will
transfer to the city of Troy. The Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review determined the bridge will remain eligible for listing in the National Register should the relocation plan be completed as proposed.

Register of Historic Kansas Places – Request for Removal

Mathias Splitlog House – 251 Orchard Street, Kansas City, Wyandotte County

The Splitlog House was listed in the Register of Historic Kansas Places in 2005 for its local significance in the area of architecture. Located in Kansas City’s Strawberry Hill neighborhood, this house was an early example of a brick-veneer-constructed, late 19th century Queen Anne style house. The house was known for its association with Mathias Splitlog, a distinguished early settler of the original town of Wyandotte, now Kansas City, Kansas. The house was located at the center of the property allotted to Splitlog in an 1855 treaty between the United States and the Wyandot Indians then residing in Kansas Territory.

At the time of nomination, this house was in an advanced state of deterioration and had suffered from alterations to the façade. Efforts to rehabilitate the house were unsuccessful, and it was demolished in September 2012.

The National Register of Historic Places is the country’s official list of historically significant properties. Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Park Service’s National Register of Historic Places is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America’s historic and archeological resources. Eligible properties must be significant for one or more of the four criteria for evaluation. Properties can be eligible if they are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. They can be eligible if they are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. Distinctive construction can qualify properties for the National Register if they embody the characteristic of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. Lastly, properties may be eligible for the National Register if they have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. The National Register recognizes properties of local, statewide, and national significance.

The Register of Historic Kansas Places is our state’s official list of historically significant properties. Properties included in the National Register are automatically listed in the State Register. However, not all properties listed in the State Register are included in the National Register. The same general criteria are used to assess the eligibility of a property for inclusion in the state register, but more flexibility is allowed in the interpretation of the criteria for eligibility.

National Register of Historic Places: nps.gov/nr
Kansas Historical Society (National and state registers): kshs.org/14638
New Preservation Grant Program

Historic Preservation Partners, Inc. (HPP) announced a new preservation grant program that will offer a unique and flexible source of preservation funding. The first round of grant applications is due August 1, 2013.

The focus of the grants is to assist in the stabilization, mothballing, and rehabilitation of buildings that are in danger of decaying beyond repair; projects that would not otherwise be feasible without outside assistance. The grants will fund essential maintenance items to prolong the building’s life while the owner develops a viable preservation plan. Also considered will be grant applications for funding a feasibility study, structural analysis, or development of a rehabilitation plan for prospective historic rehabilitation projects and applications from local or state historic organizations for educational classes, programs or events.

The maximum amount available per applicant for a single project is $15,000. Applications for this initial round of grants must be submitted on or before August 1, 2013. Beginning in 2014 and subject to available funding, HPP anticipates accepting grant applications semi-annually on March 1 and October 1.

An overview and guidelines about HPP’s grant program, as well as the grant application, can be downloaded at yourhistoricpartner.com; More information is available at 785-290-0072; rick.kready@yourhistoricpartner.com.

Intern

Washburn University graduate Cassandra Blackwell spent part of her final semester interning with Cultural Resources staff members. During her 125-hour internship, Blackwell completed 10 biographical essays for publication on Kansapedia, kansapedia.org, the Historical Society’s online encyclopedia of Kansas history, and digitized photographs of Fort Leavenworth buildings, which she uploaded to the Kansas Historic Resources Inventory, kshs.org/khri, a publically accessible online database of Kansas’ built environment. She received course credit for her work, which was overseen by Washburn history professor Dr. Rachel Goossen, and graduated in May with a bachelor’s degree in history and communications.
Register Now!

Art, Autos and Architecture

SALINA
September 19-20, 2013

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Christine Madrid French is an architectural historian who specializes in Twentieth-Century architecture. She was founder and president of the Recent Past Preservation Network and Expert Member of the Scientific Committee on 20th Century Heritage for the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). Recent projects include a survey of St. Louis buildings constructed between 1945 and 1975.

W. David Gartman is internationally recognized as a scholar of the automobile industry. In his book From Autos to Architecture, Gartman explores the automotive roots of Modern Architecture and the reasons it flourished in war-ravaged Europe and not the United States, whose automobile industry served as its inspiration.

Brian Howard applies the techniques of art conservation and historic preservation – scientific research, analysis, historic documentation and stabilization - to automobile preservation. He and his experienced team at Howard Auto Preservation in Pennsylvania are working to transform conventional thinking about preservation treatment approaches.

Timothy Dunn has restored the structural glass on many Art Deco and Art Moderne buildings and, in the process, has become the nation’s expert in the history and restoration of Vitrolite.

KANSAS PRESERVATION ALLIANCE

To REGISTER or for a more detailed schedule, go to kpalliance.org.
35th Annual Flint Hills Archaeological Conference
Manhattan, March 22-23, 2013

“Great Conference!!” This was a sentiment shared by many who attended the 35th Annual Flint Hills Archaeological Conference in Manhattan, Kansas, March 22-23, 2013. The origin of this conference traces back to 1979 when an informal gathering was held in Tulsa of archeologists who were then involved with a series of projects in the Osage Cuestas and Flint Hills of northeast Oklahoma and eastern Kansas. Discussion of regional archeology and related issues continue to this day through the annual Flint Hills Archaeological Conference (FHAC).

Its value can be measured in part by the fact that it has been offered continuously despite the fact that it is not associated with any formal organization, rather is planned and hosted each year by volunteers. Due to their efforts and the assistance of a range of sponsors, anyone interested in archeology, historic preservation, native peoples, and related topics has been able to attend at very little or no cost to the attendees. Although discussions at the first meetings in the late 1970s and early 1980s focused primarily on archeological investigations of sites in the Osage Cuestas and Flint Hills, its regional emphasis has expanded to include surrounding areas of Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, western Missouri and Iowa, and even the Texas panhandle.

This year’s Flint Hills Archaeological Conference was held in Manhattan and hosted by Kansas State University. Partial funding for the conference was provided by an Historic Preservation Fund grant from the Department of Interior’s National Park Service and administered by the Kansas Historical Society. Additional funding was generously provided by the Association of Professional Archaeologists of Kansas and Kansas State University’s Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work.

Despite threatening winter weather before and after the conference, 66 individuals from each of the above-mentioned states, as well as Illinois and Michigan were in attendance. These included archeologists and cultural resource managers working with state and federal agencies, avocational archeologists, undergraduate and graduate students in archeology and related fields, university archeologists, private archeological consultants or researchers, a former museum director, retired archeologist, professional K-12 educator, and conservationists.

By Lauren W. Ritterbush
Associate Professor of Anthropology
Kansas State University

The conference logo featured a reconstructed ceramic vessel with an effigy rim rider that was found during the 2003 Kansas Archeology Training Program field school in Wabaunsee County.
Twenty-eight presentations were given over the course of Friday and Saturday morning. Topics ranged from historic trail, native village, and steamboat sites in Kansas and along the Missouri River to prehistoric habitation, burial, and special use sites from the Archaic, Woodland, Late Prehistoric, and Protohistoric periods. Some discussions focused on material culture remains including chipped stone tools and evidence of heat treatment, prehistoric ceramics, a historic native necklace incorporating human hand and foot bones, symbolic decoration on a carved stone gorget and a ceremonial ceramic vessel, stone pipe-making tools, possible evidence of prehistoric sandals, exotic stone objects, and others. As noted by one attendee, “I enjoyed hearing about a wide variety of topics.” Although many of the presentations were by professional archaeologists, the Flint Hills Archaeological Conference is valued for “The experience of the student papers to be able to present in front of professionals in the field, and outside their university.” Nine students from Wichita State University, the University of Kansas, Kansas State University, and the University of Iowa discussed their ongoing research and received a welcome reception and useful input from the professional and avocational archeologists in attendance. Despite a full schedule of presentations, questions and comments followed many of the papers, providing the presenter with feedback and directly involving the audience. “It was a nice mixture of topical presentations and, once again, the conference proved to be a good forum for students to give papers and receive feedback that will hopefully launch meaningful research and budding careers. It was particularly gratifying to see questions posed to some of the presenters, an advantage to small, single session conferences such as the FHAC.”

Central to this year’s conference were the related themes of conservation and archeological stewardship. Dr. Valerie Wright, entomologist, environmental educator, and board member of the Kansas Land Trust and Stephanie Manes of the Ranchland Trust provided useful information about conservation programs in this region. In particular, they defined and described conservation easements and how these can be used not only to provide protection for natural ecosystems and agricultural lands, but also archeological and historic resources. Their presentations were followed by valuable discussion involving many in the audience. The majority of the attendees who completed a post-conference survey reported that they found these two presentations very informative with one individual commenting that “I especially enjoyed the presentations by representatives of the Kansas Land Trust and the Ranchland Trust. I wasn’t aware of either program, but now I see the potential for constructive cooperation. I will be in contact with both groups as a result of the conference.”

The related theme of archeological stewardship was also explored through a special session devoted to Project Archaeology, a national and state heritage education program that uses archeological inquiry to foster understanding of past and present cultures, improve social studies and science education, and enhance citizenship education to help preserve our archeological legacy (projectarchaeology.org). This session, Project Archaeology: Engaging Learners and Creating Stewards, included presentations by Virginia Wulfkuhle (public archeologist with the Kansas Historical Society), Gail Lundeen (professional K-12 educator), Lynn Alex (director of education and outreach of the office of the state archaeologist at the University of Iowa), and Lauren W. Ritterbush (associate professor of archaeology at Kansas State University). The former are Project Archaeology state coordinators for Kansas, Missouri, and Iowa, respectively. Each briefly discussed Project Archaeology and related training opportunities. In order to illustrate the stewardship focus of Project Archaeology classroom materials, everyone in attendance was included in a role-playing activity taken from the national Investigating Shelter curricular unit. The conference was transformed into a community of different interest groups who presented arguments and debated with the “city commission” the fate of a hypothetical archeological site threatened by development. As this experience demonstrated, multiple views must be
considered in real-life situations of archeological stewardship. Project Archaeology strives to help citizens become informed about the value of our human past and the irreplaceable record on which it is based.

Preservation and stewardship issues were raised throughout the conference alongside other archeological discussions. An excellent example of this was the summary presentation by Lynn Alex on Archaeology and Heritage Preservation along the Loess Hills National Scenic Byway, Iowa. Archeologists in Iowa with the support of professionals from outside that state have played a vital role in this exemplary community-driven scenic byways project. Grant funding over five years supported archeological projects by the Office of the State Archaeologist at the University of Iowa that clarified the significance of archeological sites along the Loess Hills National Scenic Byway in western Iowa. These projects not only fostered extensive collaborative research, but also involved heritage education and direct community and Native American involvement with historic preservation and stewardship.

In addition to the informative presentations throughout Friday and Saturday morning was the evening reception held at the Flint Hills Discovery Center in downtown Manhattan. This regional museum and discovery center opened in April 2012, so it was new to most of the conference attendees. Its exhibits, which explore the natural and cultural environment of the Flint Hills region, were relevant to many of the discussions conducted through the day, and the beautiful building provided a relaxing setting for continued conversations. “I enjoyed the chance to chat with other attendees at a leisurely pace in an inviting setting such as the Discovery Center. It was a very good place for a reception in general and, in particular, an appropriate one for the FHAC. Obviously none of the other conferences have had a reception where so much information was at hand about the Flint Hills environment—physical, ecological, historical, and archeological!”

The organizers of the 35th Annual Flint Hills Archaeological Conference were happy to serve as hosts to this gathering of dedicated individuals to share information and develop ideas for continued research, stewardship, and preservation. We heartily thank the sponsors who gave generously to make this conference possible, including the evening reception at the Flint Hills Discovery Center. Continued discussion and additional exploration of topics from the various presentations will take place over the next year as will the development of new ideas, projects, and collaborations. We look with excitement to next year’s Flint Hills Archaeology Conference. Keep your calendar open to join us in the spring of 2014 at Sibley, Missouri, courtesy of Fort Osage National Historic Landmark.

The Program and Abstracts for the 35th Annual Flint Hills Archaeological Conference can be accessed online at flinthillsarchconf.info/final-program-and-abstracts.

“Enjoyed the conference! I liked the more informal/intimate setting that permitted interaction with presenters. I look forward to attending the next Flint Hills Archaeological Conference!”
**Historic Sites Board of Review**

The Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review is a group of 11 professionals from various fields that meets quarterly to review and recommend nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and the Register of Historic Kansas Places, and award preservation planning and rehabilitation grants. As prescribed by the Kansas Historic Preservation Act of 1977 (K.S.A. 75-2719), the board is comprised of the following members: the governor or the governor’s designee, the state historic preservation officer or such officer’s designee, and nine members appointed by the governor for three-year terms. At least one member must be professionally qualified in each of the following disciplines: architecture, history, prehistoric archeology, historical archeology, and architectural history.

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Happenings in Kansas

August 10
Historic Sites Board of Review meeting • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

August 24
Artifact Identification • Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

August 25
Pony Express Festival • Hollenberg Pony Express Station State Historic Site, Hanover

September 14
Kansas Book Festival • Kansas State Capitol, Topeka

September 19-20
Kansas Preservation Conference • Salina

September 21
Artifact Identification • Smoky Hill Museum, Salina

September 21 – 22
Freedom Festival • John Brown Museum State Historic Site, Osawatomie

Through September 22
Furnishing Kansas exhibit • Kansas Museum of History, Topeka

October 12 – 13
Fall Festival • Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site, Fairway

October 19
Ancestor Fair • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

November 1
Kansas Historical Foundation annual meeting • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

November 1
Heritage Trust Fund grant submission deadline

November 16
Historic Sites Board of Review meeting • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

Join the Preserving Kansas listserv under Historic Preservation at kshs.org.