Archeology excavations at the Adair cabin site
See story on page 10
The Heptig Barn is located on a working farm in Flush. The Heptigs completed a major structural repair of the barn’s masonry walls with the aid of state and federal tax credits.

The Leonidas W. Coleman Furnished Rooms House, located in Lawrence's Hancock Historic District, was rehabilitated to remain a viable rental property. The owners used federal and state tax credits to update the interior and recreate the historic front porch.

Located in the East Lawrence Industrial District, the rehabilitation of the Cider Building was made possible by utilizing state and federal tax credits. The former warehouse is now a fine art gallery and event space.
Historic Sites Board of Review Endorses National and State Register Nominations

At its regular quarterly meeting held at the Kansas Historical Society in Topeka on Saturday, August 9, the Historic Sites Board of Review voted to forward nine nominations and two multiple property documents to the office of the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places in Washington, D.C., to be evaluated by its professional staff. If staff members concur with the board’s findings, the properties will be included in the National Register. The board also voted to expand the boundary of a property previously listed in the National Register, to list one property in the Register of Historic Kansas Places, and approved the text of a historical marker to be erected in Topeka.

by Sarah Martin
National Register Coordinator, Kansas Historical Society

Historic Resources of the Soule Canal multiple property nomination

The Historic Resources of the Soule Canal National Register multiple property documentation form and two associated nominations were approved. This effort to document the Soule Canal was sponsored by the Gray County Historical Society with a grant from the Historic Preservation Fund. The approved document provides a context for understanding the Soule Canal, a 96-mile-long earthen ditch constructed in the late 19th century to carry water from the Arkansas River to farms in southwest Kansas for irrigation purposes. It discusses irrigation in the Arkansas River valley in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, as well as brothers John and George Gilbert and Asa Soule, the developers and financier who carried out this ambitious plan to irrigate southwest Kansas. The Soule Canal was named after investor and New York native Asa Soule. The project began in April 1884 and was completed in 1889. It took two years, 60 horses, 150 men, and between $250,000 and $1 million to dig the channel that stretched from Ingalls in Gray County to Spearville in Ford County. The canal was a complete failure, due in part to the nature of its construction, including a risk of side slopes collapsing and water loss due to seepage, and the fact that there was nobody charged with maintaining it. Attempts to revive the canal in 1909 and 1931 were unsuccessful. Property types identified in the document include earthen canal segments, the sump, and pumps. Two segments of the canal between Ingalls and Cimarron in Gray County were nominated as part of this effort. The segment nearest Ingalls is the westernmost extant portion of the canal located closest to the long-buried sump, or collecting pool, that was adjacent to the Arkansas River southeast of Ingalls. The site includes a remnant of the early 20th century alignment of U.S. 50, which cuts through the west edge of the canal structure. The roadbed and associated roadway elements illustrate a considerable obstacle to the efforts to revive the canal in the early 20th century, thus ending future attempts to utilize the ditch for irrigation purposes. The second segment is a linear area with two distinct portions of the canal located adjacent to the north of U.S. 50 east of Ingalls. Both sites are nominated for their significance in the areas of agriculture, community planning and development, engineering, and archeology.

The rippled landscape in the distance is part of the Soule Canal in Gray County.
Craftsman-style Dwellings of Emporia, Lyon County, Kansas, 1900-1930 multiple property documentation form

The Craftsman-style Dwellings of Emporia, Lyon County, Kansas, 1900-1903 multiple property documentation form was approved. No properties were nominated as part of the project but may be in the future. The document provides a context for understanding the Craftsman architectural style and its prevalence in Emporia. The document discusses the settlement and development of Emporia, architects and building suppliers in Emporia during the early 20th century, and the Craftsman movement of the early 20th century. The popularity of the Craftsman movement coincided with a period of major growth in Emporia, resulting in the construction of many examples of the style. Craftsman-style property types found in Emporia and identified in the document include gable-front, side-gable, and cross-gable bungalows, open-gable cottages, and unique composite forms.

Sunflower Village Historic District – DeSoto, Johnson County

Sunflower Village is a World War II-era housing development near DeSoto erected by the U.S. government to address a critical housing shortage due to the influx of workers to the Sunflower Ordnance Works facility. This self-contained residential community complete with commercial, educational, social, and recreational facilities was a sort of federal company town. Designed by landscape architects Hare and Hare, the community is organized around a series of roads that form a hierarchy of circulation paths, separating pedestrian and vehicular traffic in the village. The layout combines curvilinear roads with a traditional grid creating multiple neighborhood clusters. The dwelling units themselves were designed by the Kansas City-based architecture firm Marshall and Brown and are distinguished by their uniformity, simplicity, and utilitarian design. The significant factors reflected by the individual buildings are the speed in which they were constructed, the influence of war-time materials rationing on their design and construction, and that the project was designed to be temporary. Today, 157 of the 175 (90 percent) of the original residential buildings remain. It is nominated for its local significance in the areas of community planning and development, military, and government.

Handel T. Martin House – 1709 Louisiana Street, Lawrence, Douglas County

The Handel T. Martin house, built in 1917, is located in the University Place neighborhood on the south slope of
Mount Oread in Lawrence. The residence is a well-preserved example of the American Foursquare, a house type commonly found in early 20th century neighborhoods in Lawrence. It features typical Classical and Colonial Revival embellishments. Martin was a long-time employee of the University of Kansas (KU), working as an instructor and a curator at the Natural History Museum from 1912 to 1931. He was an early fossil collector and contributor to the emerging field of vertebrate paleontology in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Martin partnered with KU archeologist T. R. Overton to excavate the highly significant Twelve Mile Creek site in Logan County in 1895, an excavation considered to be the first systematically excavated Paleoindian site. Martin lived in this residence south of campus until his death in 1931. It is nominated as part of the Historic Resources of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas, 1900-1930 multiple property nomination for its association with Martin and its local significance in the area of architecture.

**Masonic Grand Lodge Building – 320 SW 8th Avenue, Topeka, Shawnee County**

The Masonic Grand Lodge has served as the headquarters for the Kansas Masons since 1917. The Classical Revival-style building was designed by notable New York-based architect Edward Lippincott Tilton, whose body of work includes the first phase of buildings at Ellis Island and several Carnegie libraries. The building is comprised of offices for the Grand Lodge, a library and museum of Kansas masonry, and an archive for organizational records. The Masonic Grand Lodge, which is prominently located across the street from the Kansas State Capitol, is nominated for its local significance in the areas of architecture and social history.

**Derby Public School, District 6 – 716 E Market Street, Derby, Sedgwick County**

The Derby Public School, built in 1923, served as the community’s one public school building for much of the early 20th century. Wichita architect Samuel Siegfried (S.S.) Voigt designed the building, and it was constructed by the Wichita Construction Company. The two-story, red-brick building faces west and exhibits elements of the Commercial and Collegiate Gothic architectural styles. An addition was constructed in 1952 to accommodate a wave of new students whose parents worked for the growing air industry in nearby Wichita. The building functioned as a school until 1996. Today the building is owned by the Derby Historical Society and houses the Derby Historical Museum. It is nominated for its local significance in the area of education.

**Whitewater Falls Stock Farm – 433 Falls Road, Towanda, Butler County**

The Whitewater Falls Stock Farm near Towanda is home to one of the state’s most iconic barns. J. W. Robison purchased this prime land along the Whitewater River in Butler County and established his stock farm in 1884. In 1895 his son J. C. joined the business, which by then specialized in raising a breed of draft horse known as the Percheron. Its registered stock won awards at the World’s Fair, the American Royal, and many state fairs. The farm also grew into a major cattle feeding operation in the early 20th century. Not long after J. C.’s death, the business and farm were sold in 1945. Today the property consists of the
iconic 1909 horse barn designed by Wichita architect Ulysses Grant Charles, an impressive Craftsman-style residence designed by El Dorado architect Carl Muck, and a few outbuildings. The property is nominated as part of the Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas multiple property nomination for its agricultural and architectural significance.

**First Congregational Church – 400 N 9th Street, Independence, Montgomery County**

The First Congregational Church in Independence is situated on a prominent corner lot along U. S. 75 east of the historic commercial district. Completed in 1911, it is the second house of worship for the local Congregationalists. The building exhibits a rather unique interpretation of the Gothic Revival architectural style. While its crenellated towers, steeply pitched roof, and flattened Gothic arch windows are typical of the style, its quoins and front porch are quite distinctive. Church records attribute the design of the church to Chicago architect George W. Ashby and the construction to Oklahoma-based Clements and Lavery Contractors. Ashby is perhaps best known for his design of schools and residences, many of which were published in the popular catalogs of the Radford Architectural Company. The First Congregational Church is nominated for its local architectural significance.

**Alexander and Anna Schwartz Farm – 57 E CR-70, Dighton, Lane County**

Alexander and Anna Schwartz moved their young family from Russia to central Kansas in 1906. They arrived during the golden age of agriculture when American farms grew in value and size across the country. They initially lived in Russell, where other family had settled, but soon established a farm in Rush County, where they remained until 1917. They then moved to a larger farm in Ness County. In 1928 Schwartz was approached about a land trade, which ultimately netted him more land in Lane County suitable for grazing cattle. The Schwartz family erected a small farmhouse and various farm buildings—all made of structural hollow clay tile bricks—and raised cattle and a variety of crops in the surrounding fields. The
farmstead remains in the Schwartz family and includes the small Craftsman-style house, a smokehouse with a cellar, and a small gambrel-roof barn. It is nominated as part of the Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas multiple property nomination for its local agricultural significance.

National Register of Historic Places – Amendment

Lost Spring – Lost Springs, Marion County
The area around Lost Spring in Marion County was frequented by travelers along the Santa Fe Trail from 1821 to 1866. The presence of water (in the form of springs along both Lyon Creek and Cress Creek) and its location midway between Diamond Spring and Cottonwood Creek made this an ideal stopping point for travelers. The earliest travelers along the Santa Fe Trail stopped at the spring located along Lyon Creek. As the nature of trade and the types of travelers changed, a new route was created to bring travelers to the Lost Spring Station, located along Cress Creek, one mile to the west of Lyon Creek. It is unknown when Lyon Creek's association with the trail was forgotten, but certainly after the end of the trail's active years. The spring along Cress Creek received the full recognition as the Lost Spring of record, and it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. That nomination for Lost Spring included a 10-acre site along Cress Creek. Recent research strongly suggests the Lost Spring frequented by early Santa Fe travelers is located a little more than one mile to the northeast, within a five-acre site in Section 16. In order to more completely document the history of the Lost Spring area, this amendment expands the 1976 boundary to include the spring along Lyon Creek to create a 15-acre discontiguous site. A 1908 Old Settlers Lost Spring Station marker also is included in this nomination.

Register of Historic Kansas Places – Nominations

Whiting Service Station – 204 Whiting Street, Whiting, Jackson County
The Whiting Service Station was built in 1928 at the northeast corner of Whiting and 2nd streets at the south end of the community's small commercial district. Local mechanic Fred Thonen operated the Whiting Way Garage, a precursor to his Whiting Service Station, which opened May 5, 1928. The station served the motoring public until it closed in 1966. It is an example of a domestic-style gas station, a type of station popular in the 1920s that resembled a small house that conveyed a sense of domesticity meant to appeal to auto travelers. It exhibits the Craftsman style and features a canopy that extends over the driveway. The station is nominated for its local commercial and architectural significance.
Historical Marker – Review of Proposed Text

Fool Chief’s Village – Topeka, Shawnee County
The Historic Sites Board of Review approved text proposed for a historical marker, which will be erected as part of Section 106 mitigation for a road project at U. S. 24 and Menoken Road in Shawnee County. The road project, being designed to address safety concerns, will negatively impact the National Register-eligible site of a historically documented Kansa Indian settlement, known as Fool Chief’s Village (14SH305). The Historical Society, under contract with the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and under the direction of the Federal Highway Administration, carried out a data recovery program to mitigate adverse effects to the site. KDOT will erect this marker at the northeast corner of U. S. 24 and Menoken Road.

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.

Related Internet Links:
National Register of Historic Places:
nps.gov/nr/
Kansas Historical Society (National and state registers):
kshs.org/14638
More than 100 Mesker Façades Identified in Kansas

Over the last decade, the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) has led an effort to document Mesker façades throughout the country. The term “Mesker façade” refers to those mass-produced ornamental sheet-metal façades and cast iron storefronts manufactured by the Mesker Brothers Iron Works of St. Louis, Missouri, and George L. Mesker Company of Evansville, Indiana. The companies’ catalogs included entire storefront assemblies, tin ceilings, fences, skylights, and freight elevators. With assistance from the public, the IHPA and project reviewer Darius Bryjka maintain an ever-expanding database of late 19th and early 20th century buildings with Mesker façades in order to recognize the companies’ significance in shaping the appearance of our historic downtowns.

To date, nearly 3,700 buildings in 1,537 communities across the country have been identified as having a Mesker façade. In Kansas, 114 Mesker façades in 72 communities have been identified.

Bryjka maintains a Mesker-related blog (meskerbrothers.wordpress.com) to which he recently posted information about Mesker façades that have been identified in Kansas. The following is republished, with permission, from Bryjka’s post on October 11, 2013.

Kansas Meskers identified thus far are an impressive and interesting group, including some very early works (Opera House in Grainfield, Union Block in LeRoy). Perhaps the most famous (or infamous?) is the C. M. Condon and Company Bank (1890) in Coffeyville. As if the outstanding Mesker Brothers façade packing so much ornamentation into fairly small quarters wasn’t enough, the bank was the site of the last Dalton Gang robbery on October 5, 1892 (the gang was attempting to rob two banks at once; the other was First National Bank). As they tried to escape, four members were killed by a marshal’s posse and Emmett Dalton was wounded and captured. Since the focus of this initiative is to recognize the Meskers’ architectural significance, I often forget to state the obvious, which is that these structures preserve other stories, mostly of local, and occasionally of wider interest and significance. Together with the architecture, they surely must possess the ability to capture admiration and respect. They captured mine long ago.

Historically, Kansas building owners very much liked Mesker offerings. Kansas ranked as the eighth leading buyer of Mesker products with a combined estimate of
approximately 1,889 façades, 1,502 were by Mesker Brothers Iron Works bought at a total of $213,337.51 between 1885 and 1908 (ranking #5 on the company’s charts). The remaining 387 were by George L. Mesker & Co. (ranking #16).

Here’s the breakdown of the 113 façades in Kansas:
- 95 by Mesker Brothers Iron Works (MB)
- 17 by George L. Mesker & Co. (GLM)
- 1 by both
- 61 complete “house fronts” (50 MB, 11 GLM)
- 13 demolished (11 MB, 2 GLM)
- 71 towns (57 MB, 10 GLM, 4 both) – Wilson has the most with 5.

Photographs of Mesker façades and images of old company catalogs are on Bryjka’s blog at meskerbrothers.wordpress.com. An up-to-date list of known Mesker façades across the country can be found here: illinois.gov/ihpa/preserve/pages/gotmesker.aspx.

UPDATE
Since this article was originally published, one additional Mesker façade has been recorded bringing the total number to 114 façades in 72 Kansas communities.

If you are aware of a Mesker façade, contact the IHPA at hpa.gotmesker@illinois.gov or the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office at survey@kshs.org.
Preservation News from Doniphan County

June 24, 2014, was a special day for the preservation community in and around Doniphan. More than 200 people assembled at St. John the Baptist Church (now Oratory) to celebrate the saint’s feast day and the fact that they had raised more than $25,000 in donations toward the preservation of the church building.

Many people gathered for a Mass within the historic sanctuary, but dozens more gathered on the lawn afterward to eat and enjoy the beauty of the building’s setting within the Brenner Vineyard Historic District, listed in the National Register on May 24, 2005. The building was constructed in 1867 and served as the first parish in Kansas operated by Benedictine monks. Roof repairs are now complete, and the building is no longer in danger of water leaks from above. Supporters continue their efforts to raise funds for the next phases of the project including electrical upgrades, ceiling repairs, and restoration of the stained glass windows. Learn more about the efforts to save this piece of rural Kansas at stjohnsoratory.org.

Clockwise, the new roof on St. John the Baptist Oratory was funded through the generous donations of citizens throughout Doniphan and Atchison counties; supporters of preserving the historic St. John the Baptist Church (now Oratory) gathered June 24 to celebrate the saint’s feast day with a Mass inside the historic sanctuary. Photographs courtesy Bob Nourie.
Abolitionism in Territorial Kansas: Archeology Excavations at the Adair Cabin Site (14MM327)

The 2014 Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school excavated at the Adair cabin site in Osawatomie. Volunteers and staff members spent thousands of hours in the field and lab to discover archeological information about the Adair family, relatives of John Brown, who participated in the free-state movement in territorial Kansas. The Kansas Historical Society and Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA) sponsored this event in cooperation with the John Brown Foundation and the City of Osawatomie.

The historic Adair cabin site (14MM327) is located in Osawatomie on a hill just south of the Marais des Cygnes River. Near the location where the cabin once stood is a historical marker, commemorating the cabin, as well as the location where proslavery men killed Frederick Brown, son of John Brown, prior to the Battle of Osawatomie in 1856. Also on the property is a two-story frame house built in 1903 by the Adairs’ son Charles. Due to the history surrounding the site, the property had been metal-detected over the years, but it had not been excavated in a formal manner until the 2014 KATP field school. The John Brown Foundation purchased the property in 2009 and contacted the Historical Society to excavate the site.

History of the Adair Cabin Site
Both Samuel and Florella had graduated from Oberlin College in Ohio, and both were staunch, but peaceful, abolitionists. Samuel had been a minister in Ohio and Michigan for several years but was not very successful. He felt called to be a missionary in Kansas Territory, though Florella was hesitant. However, when the Kansas-Nebraska Act was passed in 1854, leaving the decision whether those territories would enter the Union as free or slave states up to vote, Florella agreed to go, and the Adairs moved to Kansas in 1855 with the Massachusetts Emigrant Aid Society.

They bought a cabin just west of Osawatomie that had been built the year before by Samuel Glenn and had served as a grocery store and bar. Shortly thereafter, John Brown, Florella’s half-brother, moved to Kansas to live near some of his sons in Brownsville, a few miles west of Osawatomie. Brown, his sons, and son-in-law made some improvements to the Adairs’ cabin, including windows, a wooden floor, a northern kitchen addition with a cellar, and a loft, significantly improving the original structure.

Left to right, the east side of the Adair cabin and an outbuilding before 1903. Photo courtesy of kansasmemory.org; volunteers exposing the foundation of the Adair cabin.
Though the Browns improved the Adairs’ life in some ways, they endangered it in others. The Bleeding Kansas era was dangerous for abolitionists, especially relatives of John Brown. Though a peaceful minister, Samuel’s life was threatened not only for his abolitionist beliefs, but also for his relationship with Brown. Brown sometimes participated in raids against proslavery activists in Kansas and Missouri, including the Pottawatomie Massacre on May 24, 1856, during which five proslavery officials were murdered with broadswords. In retaliation, and with the expectation of capturing or killing Brown, proslavery forces attacked the town of Osawatomie on August 30, 1856. Brown’s outnumbered men fought along the bank of the Marais des Cygnes River and retreated across the river in hopes of sparing the town. However, the majority of Osawatomie and Brownsville was burned. Surprisingly, the Adairs’ cabin was spared when the proslavery men found only Florella, who was pregnant, and some sick women and children inside.

During the Civil War Samuel became a chaplain at Fort Leavenworth. Florella passed away from illness in Leavenworth in 1865 and was buried there. After the war Samuel moved back to the cabin in Osawatomie and continued his ministry and farming. In 1866 Samuel built a western addition to the cabin, which served as his study. He died in Osawatomie in 1898. The Adairs’ son Charles was a successful farmer and in 1903 built a frame house, which still stands on the property.

The cabin, due to its association with John Brown, was a tourist attraction in the late 1800s and early 1900s. In 1911 and 1912 the cabin was deconstructed and reconstructed in town on the battlefield of the Battle of Osawatomie, now John Brown Memorial Park. A stone pergola was built around the cabin in 1928. The cabin still stands in the pergola today.

**Excavating the Site**

Five main lines of evidence were used to determine where the KATP participants should dig: visible features at the site, historical documents, historical photographs, local knowledge, and geophysical survey (including magnetometry, gradiometry, and ground-penetrating radar). Because the history of the site and the lives of the Adairs was well preserved, due to their association with John Brown, it was known that the cabin was originally at the 14MM327 site. However, specifics, such as the exact location of the cabin or details of the Adairs’ daily life, were not known. Six research questions were formulated to address questions about the site:

1. How did the Adair family participate in abolition, the Underground Railroad, and free-state activism (possibly in comparison/contrast to John Brown)?
2. Can any definitive Border War-era or John Brown activity be detected? If so, can the Border War component be separated from later components?
3. What does the site’s material culture say about the socio-economic status of the Adair family (for example, items imported from the East or food consumption)?
4. How did the Adair family interact with the community of Osawatomie (Samuel’s activities as church pastor and farmer and Florella’s as someone who took in sewing and laundry)?
5. Can the locations of outbuildings be distinguished? If so, what function did they serve?
6. How was the cabin disassembled and moved to its current location?

The cabin was moved in 1911, but the 1903 frame house was occupied into the 2000s. Because the site was occupied almost continuously for about 150 years, there were few visible clues at the site to guide excavation locations. However, historic photos from 1903 to 1911 showed that the cabin was near the north side of the frame house and that outbuildings were present near the northeast and northwest corners of the yard. Excavations took place in two areas. Area 14-1 was near the standing house, where the cabin was originally located. Area 14-2 was the northern part of the yard, primarily to locate outbuildings.

Hank Roeckers of Garnett finds several artifacts while metal detecting in area 14-2.
As the cabin’s location was somewhat evident from historic photographs and a large walkway stone was visible on the surface, a grid of 1- by 1-meter squares was placed north of the frame house in area 14-1. Excavations began west of a modern concrete sidewalk, but due to these units’ proximity to the area remodeled for the septic system, the soil and artifacts were mixed together and unlikely to yield much archeological evidence.

Further excavations in area 14-1 were conducted east of the sidewalk and north of the garage. It became evident that most of the original cabin footprint is underneath the garage. However, the northern kitchen addition, built by John Brown in 1856, was disturbed only by two large trees. Excavations located a line of large, flat stones in line with the stone that was exposed on the ground surface. It is likely that these stones constituted a walkway on the north side of the cabin, as shown in historic photographs. Between the walkway stones and the garage are three partial lines of stones that may be the foundation of the eastern, northern, and western walls of the northern addition. All of these possible foundation walls and the walkway are approximately 8 to 10 degrees north of west or east of north. This fits with the photographs that show the cabin askew compared to the frame house.

There is another feature inside of the wall foundations in area 14-1: four walls of mortared, faced stones at right angles to one another. This feature was not detected early in excavations because a large hackberry tree is growing in the middle of it. Due to the large roots and rocks nearby, the feature was difficult to excavate. Soil probes showed that the soil inside this feature was similar to the highly organic soil more than a meter below the surface, further indicating that it was dug out, rather than being part of the wall foundations. (This is in contrast to everywhere else at the site, where clay was encountered somewhere between 20 and 40 centimeters below the surface.)

Several residents of Osawatomie remember that there was a trap door in the relocated cabin before a fire in 1995 damaged part of the structure, and the kitchen floor was reconstructed. This feature may be the cellar underneath the trap door in the kitchen floor.

Area 14-1 yielded many artifacts, as well as modern garbage. Of particular note were several eating utensils in the area that was the kitchen. One of these is a nickel-plated fork with the initials F.B.A. inscribed on it. It is highly likely that these initials stand for Florella Brown Adair, which makes the artifact very significant. Other finds from this area were many fragments of glass and ceramics that have not yet been dated; some cut pieces of pig bones, including a jaw, though these may be from more recent occupation; several clay and glass marbles, as well as some modern children’s toys; and several fired .22 casings, a live .22 round, and a large caliber bullet.

Area 14-2 was a much larger area than 14-1, comprising most of the northern area of the yard. Because there was little information about this part of the site, aside from photographs showing outbuildings in that approximate location, metal detecting and shovel tests were conducted in this area. The metal detector crew searched in particular areas of the yard where outbuildings were suspected to be. The northeast area yielded the most significant results. Although there were some modern metal objects, there were many square nails, parts of tools and chains, possible wagon parts, and several pieces a probable stove. Additionally, one of the square nails was embedded in a piece of charcoal, indicating a likely structure in the area.

Shovel tests at two-meter intervals were conducted across the north and south portions of area 14-2. Shovel testing is useful for finding artifacts or features that other methods, such as metal detecting, might miss. While most of the shovel tests recovered a few artifacts, little of significance was found, and no shovel tests led to further excavations.

Because of the significant metal detector hits in the northeast part of area 14-2, excavation units were placed there. These units revealed several features. The southern-most of these was a line of stones with a large stone on each end and a few smaller stones between them. A few meters north was a line of possible post molds, with a piece of charcoal in the middle. This is near where the metal detectors found the charcoal with a nail in it. Between the line of rocks and the line of post molds is a defined floor of compacted soil. A few meters north of the line of post molds is a line of flat, large stones, similar to the walkway stones near the cabin. There is no floor between the post molds and the flat stones. However, the lines of stones and the line of post molds run almost perfectly northwest to southeast, indicating that they all may be part of the same structure. It appears that this structure is in a similar location to an outbuilding in historic photos, but that building is oriented to a more southwest to northeast angle, indicating that these are two different structures.
In addition to the metal-detected artifacts in area 14-2, several non-metal artifacts were uncovered near the structure. The most significant may have been several fragments of one piece of frosted and etched glass. Another interesting find from this area is a hair ball from a cow. From the artifacts found in the northeast part of area 14-2, it seems that this structure housed animals, vehicles, or possibly both.

Preliminary Results and Future Work
Over the course of 16 days of excavation and lab work, the volunteers and staff made many discoveries at the Adair cabin site. There are still months, perhaps years, of research and analysis to do on the site, and no real conclusions should be drawn yet. However, a little new light may be shed on some of the research questions for the site.

1. How did the Adair family participate in abolition, the Underground Railroad, and free-state activism (possibly in comparison/contrast to John Brown)?
   From the archeological evidence gathered so far, this is a question that cannot be addressed. However, local oral history states that the cabin was a stop on the Underground Railroad and that the kitchen area with the trap door was built by John Brown to hide runaway slaves. The archeology confirms that a cellar was probably underneath the kitchen area. Of course, it may simply have been a root cellar.

2. Can any definitive Border War-era or John Brown activity be detected? If so, can the Border War component be separated from later components?

3. What does the site’s material culture say about the socio-economic status of the Adair family (for example, items imported from the East or food consumption)?

4. How did the Adair family interact with the community of Osawatomie (Samuel’s activities as church pastor and farmer and Florella’s as someone who took in sewing and laundry)?
   Questions 2 to 4 all have a similar answer: more lab analysis is needed before anything definite can be stated. Artifacts still need to be analyzed before they are dated. Because the site was continuously occupied for 150 years, the range of dates for artifacts might run together, especially as much of the site has been disturbed. However, the fork with the F.B.A. engraving gives some hope that the answers to these questions may be available.

5. Can the locations of outbuildings be distinguished?
   If so, what function did they serve?
   At least one outbuilding was discovered in the northeast part of area 14-2. Artifacts from the mid- to late-1800s and early 1900s occur in this area, but their association with the building is unclear, especially since the building in the historic photographs is not the building found archeologically.

6. How was the cabin disassembled and moved to its current location?
   It is unclear whether information was found about how the building was deconstructed and moved. However, we know that many of the original foundation and walkway stones, at least for the northern addition, were left in place.

More excavations will be conducted at this site during the KAA Fall Fling in September. The John Brown Foundation is hopeful that it can remove the garage before this event, so that excavations may be conducted on the main area of the cabin as well. The Adair cabin site still has much to reveal about life in territorial Kansas, a pivotal part of United States history.

Highway Archeologist Tricia Waggoner excavates part of the probable cellar feature in area 14-1.

John A. Fox, Nevada, Missouri, received his master’s in applied anthropology in 2012 from Missouri State University, Springfield. His work on 19th century historic sites in Missouri contributed to his selection as principal investigator for the 2014 KATP field school. Currently he is analyzing the artifacts from the 2014 KATP field school and will submit a final report in December 2015.
Field School Has Merit for Boy Scouts

The requirements for the Boy Scouts of America Archaeology Merit Badge are much more demanding than those for many other scouting badges. Nevertheless, four scouts took up the challenge to begin earning the badge at the 2014 Kansas Archeology Training Program field school. Boy Scouts from Troop 55, Lawrence; and Troop 177, Oklahoma City; spent time on their badge requirements during the field school.

By participating in the Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school, the scouts were able to fulfill six of the 11 requirements for the badge (see meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Archaeology). Virginia Wulfkuhle, Kansas Historical Society public archeologist; and Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA) members Chris Hord, Lee’s Summit, Missouri; and Mary Conrad, Kansas City, provided the specific training through the principles of archeology class and hands-on work at the site and in the lab. Hord and Wulfkuhle conducted exit interviews with the boys before they left the project to confirm that they had absorbed the material and completed the items listed below.

1. Tell what archaeology is and explain how it differs from anthropology, geology, paleontology, treasure hunting, and history.

2. Describe each of the following steps of the archeological process: site location, development of a research design, historical research, site excavation, artifact
identification and examination, interpretation, preservation, and information sharing.

3. Describe at least two ways in which archeologists determine the age of sites, structures, or artifacts. Explain what relative dating is.

4. Do the following:
   a. Explain why it is important to protect archeological sites.
   b. Explain what people should do if they think they have found an artifact.
   c. Describe the ways in which you can be a protector of the past.

5. Do ONE of the following:
   a. Under the supervision of a qualified archeologist, spend at least eight hours helping to excavate an archeological site.
   b. Under the supervision of a qualified archeologist, spend at least eight hours in an archeological laboratory helping to prepare artifacts for analysis, storage, or display.

6. Identify three career opportunities in archeology. Pick one and explain how to prepare for such a career. Discuss with your counselor what education and training are required, and explain why this profession might interest you.

Most of the remaining badge requirements involve individual research and report writing.

The Archaeology Merit Badge, which was introduced in 1997, has caused concern among professional archeologists. While the pamphlet is well written, the requirements necessitate supervision by professional archeologists, as well as the usual guidance of a counselor. Collaboration by professionals has been in short supply, making it difficult for many scouts to advance in the manner intended. Hord, an Eagle Scout himself, is applying to become a counselor in both Kansas and Missouri. The Historical Society and KAA encourage scouts, individually or as a troop, to take advantage of the KATP field school to make progress on this badge.

Max McChesney, Troop 177, Oklahoma City, learned the excavation process from starting a unit at ground surface through completing unit level forms.
Five Hot Days in July

“Archaeology in the Classroom” brought together 11 Kansas teachers, diverse in grade level, subject, geographic location, personality, and teaching style, but all enthusiastic about learning to teach with archeology and eager to contribute their own experiences. The group included first, third, fifth, sixth, and eighth grade teachers of social studies, science, world history, math, language arts, and gifted from all over eastern Kansas (Baldwin City, Erie, Garnett, Independence, Junction City, Kansas City, Lawrence, Meriden, and Paola).

The Kansas Historical Society partnered with Greenbush Resource Center in Eudora to offer this workshop free of charge. The education service center provided well-equipped classrooms and food for teachers employed in its member school districts. With a small infusion of funds from the Kansas Historic Preservation Office, the Historical Society furnished instructors, books, and other materials.

On July 23 and 24 Susan Schuckman and Kay Hansen from the Blue Valley School District, joined Historical Society Public Archeologist Virginia Wulfkuhle in modeling Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelter. The Pawnee earthlodge investigation was used. The third day was devoted to the Kansas-specific units, The Archaeology of Wichita Indian Shelter in Kansas, The Archaeology of Early Agriculture in Kansas, and Migration of the Pueblo People to El Cuartelejo. Workshop participants presented segments of these units, using their own teaching styles. An optional field exercise was offered July 26 to 27. Wulfkuhle was assisted on Saturday by Vita Tucker, an experienced Kansas Anthropological Association volunteer.

Eight participants took the workshop for two or three hours of graduate level college credit through Baker University Continuing Education Program in Overland Park. Five took the additional facilitator training and can be added to the list of Kansas facilitators: Annette Bright, Virginia A. Wulfkuhle

Participants assess their skills of observation, inference, evidence, classification, and context on a family room site.
Ryan Ford, Nancy Jackson, Jolene Pennington, and Alica Thomas.

Wulfkuhle distributed 32 classroom sets of Kansas-specific materials to workshop participants. In addition, the Historical Society negotiated a memorandum of agreement with the Lawrence Virtual School for its gifted teacher Nancy Jackson to adapt the Kansas materials to a virtual format. A similar agreement is sought by USD 497 with national Project Archaeology for *Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelter.*

Nine of 11 participants rated the workshop extremely useful, while two ranked it as useful. Some comments from the evaluations are compiled below.

“Going through the unit makes me much more likely to actually do the unit with my students rather than just putting the book on my shelf to read ‘someday.’”

“By having Project Archaeology ‘taught’ to us it made it easy to understand. I am ready to teach to my class.”

“Resources were awesome. The whole workshop was informative and I will be able to implement the lessons into my 5th grade classroom.”

“Getting materials I can take back and use in my classroom [was the highlight]. I like that because we have NO resources we can use for this.”

“I liked how the resources and props were used. It gives us an idea on how to use the information.”

“The content was very strong in that I feel comfortable with the vocabulary.”

“I think culture is a confusing concept for little kids but this explains it in a way they can understand.”

“Interpreting pictures of the past helped me think like an archeologist—the inferences we could make and the further questions these pictures made me think of.”

“I feel that the higher level of thinking strategies and backward design are modern teaching methods.”

“I love how the lessons are well planned out. … It gives good ideas on how to expand. … It goes along with the state curriculum.”

“I liked how the Kansas standards were addressed so I could see exactly how they fit.”

“This becomes more useful in the era of common core” (Kansas College and Career Ready Standards).

“This workshop opened my eyes to how indepth the job of an archaeologist is. It also helps me answer some of the questions my students have had that I couldn’t answer before.”

Participants receive their certificates at the conclusion of the three classroom days.
Ethnographic Donation

Ethnographic collections are groups of objects that represent a particular culture. The Kansas Historical Society’s archeology office has been collecting prehistoric archeological materials since the institution’s inception and received its first ethnographic objects in 1902. While some of the objects are from state historic sites such as Fort Hays and Constitution Hall, most are related to American Indians and include objects such as clothing, pipes, weapons, horse tack, or utilitarian objects from 38 different tribal nations. These objects are used in exhibits in the Kansas Museum of History and some of the state historic sites and are studied by visiting researchers.

Recently the Archeology office was fortunate to receive a special donation for the collection. Susan Dansenburg Campbell, from Kalaheo, Hawaii, wanted to find an institution that would preserve some of her family’s treasured heirlooms. Campbell, a member of the Potawatomi Nation, contacted the Kansas Historical Society regarding the objects, which belonged to her great uncle Will Wetherholt, a descendent of Louis Vieux. Campbell’s uncle passed the items along to her grandmother, who passed them on to her father.

Accompanied by members of her family, Campbell delivered the ethnographic materials to the Historical Society in August 2014. The intricately beaded items were made for Wetherholt in Shawnee, Oklahoma, in the 1920s. Campbell donated a pair of beaded moccasins with floral design, beaded hat band, beaded sash with yarn tassels, sash, beaded woman’s purse with leaf design, and man’s black cotton ribbon shirt. These objects join hundreds of other items in the Historical Society’s ethnographic collection.

Family members Leo and Ida Nadeau and Eric Campbell joined donor Susan Dansenburg Campbell (center front) when she delivered her great uncle’s regalia.
In Memoriam

First Presbyterian Church, Abilene
Built circa 1882; listed in National Register 2001; lost to fire July 23, 2014

Abilene Power Plant
Built 1939; demolished 2014

729 (left) – 727 (middle) Wisconsin Street, Cawker City
Built 1926; listed 1986; demolished spring 2014

Kennedy House, Cawker City
Built 1876; demolished September 18, 2014

731 (left) – 729 (right) Wisconsin Street, Cawker City
Built 1889; listed 1986; demolished spring 2014

Buildings pictured above and right were contributors to the Wisconsin Street Historic District.
109 - 111 North 7th Street, Salina
Built circa 1890; demolished 2014

Sunflower Inn, Osborne
Built 1924; demolished September 2014

417 - 419 Main Street, Scott City
Lost to fire
September 9, 2014

Martin Stadium, Salina
Built 1940; demolished April 2014
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.

Jennie Chinn, State Historic Preservation Officer
J. Eric Engstrom, Wichita, governor’s designee
Toni Stewart, Topeka
Sharron Hamilton, Salina
John W. Hoopes, Lawrence
Joseph Johnson, Wichita
Samuel Passer, Overland Park
Beka Romm, Lawrence
David H. Sachs, Manhattan
Gregory Schneider, Topeka
Margaret Wood, Topeka

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Happenings in Kansas

November 18
Follow the Buffalo
Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

December 4
Holiday Open House
Kaw Mission State Historic Site, Council Grove

December 5-6
Christmas Past • Fort Hays State Historic Site, Hays

December 6
Christmas Open House • Hollenberg Pony Express Station State Historic Site, Hanover

December 6 and 13
Christmas Open House • Grinter Place State Historic Site, Kansas City

December 7
White Christmas • Red Rocks State Historic Site, Emporia

December 13
Holiday Open House • Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

February 14
Historic Sites Board of Review meeting • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

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