This commemorative issue celebrates milestones in preservation efforts throughout Kansas.
This issue of Kansas Preservation celebrates two significant milestones:

1,000 Kansas listings in the National Register of Historic Places and the fortieth anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Neither accomplishment would be possible without concerned and dedicated Kansans throughout the state. Their hard work is applauded. We look forward to helping Kansas achieve its next thousand listings!

Franklin County Courthouse, Ottawa, listed 1972
Historic Preservation Milestones Celebrated in Kansas

This issue of Kansas Preservation commemorates both 1,000 Kansas listings in the National Register of Historic Places and the fortieth anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Like most significant milestones, these two required years of hard work and dedication.

The modern historic preservation movement began with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the culmination of a report entitled With Heritage So Rich by a special committee of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. The committee addressed the increased destruction rate of historic properties due to unchecked development and government programs that wreaked havoc on historic inner city neighborhoods—most notably the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Urban Renewal program and the construction of the interstate highway system.

Congress utilized this report as the basis for the National Historic Preservation Act, which created both the National Register and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, encouraged the formation of the state historic preservation offices, and gave these offices matching grants to perform surveys and other preservation activities. Section 106 of the act required federal agencies to take into account the effect of their undertakings on properties listed in the National Register. Later amendments further defined what constitutes a Section 106 review and extended protection to properties that were not yet listed in the National Register but were determined eligible for listing.

Early Preservation Efforts in Kansas

Like most states, Kansas dabbled in historic preservation in the years before the passage of the act. The Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS), founded in 1875, gained its first historic properties in 1901 with the acquisition of the Pawnee Indian Village in Republic County, the First Territorial Capitol in Riley County, and Fort Hays in Ellis County.

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the nation’s historic places worthy of preservation. Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, it is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archeological resources. The National Register is administered by the National Park Service (NPS) under the Secretary of the Interior.

Properties listed in the National Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The National Register includes:

- all historic areas in the National Park System;
- National Historic Landmarks that have been designated by the Secretary of the Interior for their significance to all Americans; and
- properties significant to the nation, state, or community which have been nominated by State Historic Preservation Offices, federal agencies, or tribal preservation offices, and have been approved by the NPS.

Listing in the National Register has the following results that assist in preserving historic properties:

- recognition of significance to the nation, state, or community;
- consideration in the planning for federal or federally assisted projects;
- eligibility for technical assistance; and
- eligibility for funding assistance, including grants and tax credits.

Additional historic sites were acquired over time.

The forerunner of the highway marker program began in 1935, when the KSHS surveyed more than 300 historic sites. In conjunction with the state chamber of commerce and the highway commission, fifty of the sites were marked with wooden signs; those markers were replaced with cast aluminum after World War II. Currently, 117 historical markers identify interesting places, events, and people in Kansas history.

In 1957, the Society published A Survey of Historic Sites and Structures in Kansas in accordance with a 1955 statute requiring the KSHS to survey and recommend historic sites for “acquisition, maintenance and preservation.” The report identified 178 sites and contained a brief historical statement regarding the property, location, current status, and a recommendation “for its preservation or marking if such recognition is believed desirable and practicable.” Remarkably, many buildings surveyed are still extant, and many are listed in the state and/or National Register. The survey also points out a number of unfortunate preservation losses, such as the state’s only surviving covered bridge in Leavenworth County.

The passage of the National Historic Preservation Act in 1966 led to the creation of the State Historic Preservation...
Office within the Society. The KSHS executive director serves as State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). In 1970, Richard D. Pankratz joined the staff as program director and served in that capacity for more than thirty-four years until his retirement in 2004.

Kansas received the first federal matching grant for survey in 1969. The survey was divided into three phases: architectural, historical, and archeological. The architectural survey, basically a windshield survey of city and rural areas on a county-by-county basis, was conducted during the summer months of 1969, 1970, and 1971 by college students under the supervision of a qualified historical architect. The historical component also was organized on a county basis but relied heavily upon the resources in the KSHS library and archives. The archeological aspect of the survey was coordinated with the Archeology Department. The results of the survey were published in 1973: Historic Preservation in Kansas, Volume 1, Historical Background and Volume 2, Inventory of Historic Sites. At that time, Kansas had 143 National Register listings.

The next major milestone for historic preservation in Kansas occurred in 1977 with the passage of the Kansas Preservation Act (K.S.A. 75-2715 through 75-2726). The initial legislation declared historic preservation the policy of the state and created the Register of Historic Kansas Places (also known as the state register). The act also required the activities of governmental entities that encroached upon national or state register properties to be reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. In 1981, lawmakers expanded the law to require review of all projects requiring a building permit that affected state or National Register properties and their environs. A 1988 amendment further defined the environs of historic properties, requiring that the SHPO receive notice of any proposed project within 500 feet of a listed historic property located within the corporate limits of a city or within 1,000 feet of a listed historic property located in the unincorporated portion of a county.

A 1993 amendment allowed the SHPO to delegate state law review to a city or county government if it has “enacted a comprehensive local historic preservation ordinance, established a local historic preservation board or commission and is actively engaged in a local historic preservation program.” Currently, six cities conduct their own state law reviews.

The Kansas Preservation Act has been controversial at times, but it is still considered among the most progressive state preservation laws in the nation and has succeeded in preserving many historic Kansas properties.

Resources

Other articles in this issue examine the impact of the federal and state tax credits and the Heritage Trust Fund grant program on historic preservation in Kansas. In 1990, the state legislature created the Heritage Trust Fund, while the 25 percent state tax credit is more recent, having been established in 2001. The impact of these two programs, especially the state tax credit, has been spectacular. For instance, before 2001 Kansas had approximately 700 National Register listings nominated over more than a thirty-year period. Since 2001, more than 300 listings have been added.

A more telling statistic that speaks to the appeal of the financial incentives is reflected in the National Register historic district count. Commercial or income-producing properties may qualify for both the 20 percent federal and the 25 percent state tax credit programs on the cost of restoration. Before 2001, Kansas had thirty-two National Register-listed districts. Since that time, forty-four districts have been added with even more in the nomination process.

What does the future hold?

The CRD recently initiated a two-year multiple property nomination project, Agricultural Resources of Kansas, that involves surveying more than 300 barns statewide and documenting the history of Kansas agriculture from the territorial period through 1958. While the survey will focus on barns, the multiple property nomination format allows for other agricultural-related properties, such as farmhouses, associated outbuildings, silos, and grain elevators, to be nominated to the National Register as part of the multiple property submission.

Beyond agriculture-related properties, the CRD staff has identified historic road-related architecture as worthy of future study and preservation. Once numerous, examples of historic gas stations, diners, drive-in movie theaters, tourist courts, and motels that retain their integrity are disappearing due to obsolescence and/or increased developmental pressure.

With the passage of time, the inevitable has occurred. Properties that once were considered the “recent past” are now fifty years old and eligible for National Register listing. Within the next year or so, we will likely announce that a Ranch-style house or an early 1950s suburban residential district has been listed in the National Register. Although some question the architectural significance of modern building styles, supporters of preserving the architecture of the recent past note that many preservationists in the 1960s viewed the now coveted Craftsman-style bungalows as too common and recent to be worthy of preservation.

Finally, the CRD will continue to survey, document, and list historic properties of all types and styles throughout the state with special emphasis on western Kansas, where seven counties are still without National Register listings. The staff intends to strengthen existing partnerships and build new ones to achieve the goal of preserving the state’s rich cultural heritage.

Patrick Zollner
Cultural Resources Division Director
Steps to Listing a Property on the National or State Register

The process of nominating a property involves several steps, as outlined below. If a property meets the criteria of age, integrity, and potential significance, the nomination process typically takes between eight and twelve months. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the Kansas State Historical Society provides direction for the necessary research, relying heavily on the time and efforts of the nomination sponsor.

- **File a Preliminary Site Information Questionnaire (PSIQ)**
  This is a one-page, front and back form that the staff uses to evaluate whether properties meet the requirements for register listing. A property sponsor should file this form with the SHPO, along with the recommended photographs of the property. The form is available online at kshs.org/resource/psiq or by calling (785) 272-8681 Ext. 240.

- **Receive Eligibility Letter**
  Within four weeks of submitting the PSIQ, the property sponsor will receive a letter from SHPO staff indicating whether the property is eligible for either the state or National Registers. If the property is eligible, the letter will include a form to complete and a description of how to proceed with the nomination.

- **Submit a Draft National Register Nomination**
  A National Register nomination consists of three main parts: a four-page cover document, a narrative architectural description of the nominated property, and a statement of its historic significance. The statement of significance is based upon the National Register criteria. The property sponsor or consultant is responsible for writing the draft nomination.

- **Receive Staff Review**
  The staff will review and comment on the nomination draft within sixty days. Revisions may continue until the document is ready to be scheduled for consideration by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review.

- **Consideration by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review**
  Once the nomination is ready, it will be considered by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review. This board is appointed by the governor to make recommendations on the nomination of properties to the state and National Registers. Nominations are presented to the board by SHPO staff or professional consultants. Nomination sponsors are encouraged to attend this public meeting.

- **Board Lists Property on the State Register**
  If approved by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review and the State Historic Preservation Officer, the property will be listed on the state register following the meeting. If the property is approved for state register listing and is being nominated to the National Register, the board will forward its recommendation for listing to the National Park Service (NPS) in Washington.

- **NPS Lists Property on the National Register**
  If the property is being nominated for listing on the National Register, SHPO staff will forward the nomination to the NPS for its review and approval. The sponsor will receive a letter from KSHS informing of the National Register listing date about three to five months after the state nomination action.

Visit the web site at kshs.org
or call (785) 272-8681 Ext. 240 for more information.

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**Frequently Asked Questions**

**What properties are eligible?**
- Districts, sites, buildings, structures, landscapes, and objects significant to the prehistory or history of the community, state, or nation.

**How old must my property be?**
- Generally, a property must be at least fifty years old to be eligible.

**How do I apply?**
- To apply, you must first submit a preliminary site information questionnaire (PSIQ) for staff screening, and then a National Register nomination. (The application process is detailed in the checklist on this page.)

**What kind of information must I include on the preliminary application?**
- You will provide a description of the property, a summary of the property’s history and/or architecture, current interior and exterior photographs, any available historic photographs and, if available, a construction date.

**Where can I find information about my property?**
- Local historical societies or libraries are a good place to start. They may have books or documents such as tax records, city directories, maps, photographs, building permits, and newspapers to help in your research. The SHPO staff provides research guidance but must rely on the efforts of the nomination sponsor to complete the research requirements.

**What are the benefits of listing my building?**
- Listed buildings are eligible for technical assistance and funding programs, including grants and tax credits (see “Preservation Resources” on pages 14 and 23).
What is a historic district? A historic district is a concentration of buildings united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development. Common examples include downtown commercial areas and residential neighborhoods.

Why list a district on the National Register? An area may have a concentration of historic buildings that are eligible for listing in the National Register. Listing these buildings as a district, rather than individually, streamlines the process and is more inclusive. For instance, some properties in a historic district may not meet the criteria for individual listing in the National Register, yet they are eligible to receive restoration tax credits and apply for the Heritage Trust Fund grant program because they contribute to the overall historic significance of the district (see page 14).

Must every building within a proposed district be historic? A district will undoubtedly have examples of nonhistoric buildings and vacant lots. The program guidelines recognize this and, therefore, categorize historic character-defining properties as contributors and modern or significantly altered properties as noncontributors. The National Park Service (NPS) requires that at least 51 percent of buildings in a district be contributors, although a higher percentage is encouraged. Only contributors are eligible for rehabilitation incentives.

How do we know if an area could be listed as a historic district? The first step is to contact the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) at (785) 272-8681 Ext. 240. Staff will encourage the completion of a survey of the proposed district area, including photos, descriptions, and historical information for each building. Some communities hire a consultant to complete this process, while others use local volunteers who are trained through the SHPO. Communities can apply for a Historic Preservation Fund grant to help offset the cost of hiring a consultant. The survey allows the SHPO to evaluate the eligibility of properties and to determine appropriate district boundaries; it also serves as a valuable local planning tool. During this survey period, local organizers should obtain the property owners’ support for the listing.

Who determines whether a building is contributing or noncontributing? If a preservation consultant has been hired to assist with listing the district, he or she may provide recommendations; however, the SHPO staff makes the determination of eligibility.

Who prepares the National Register nomination form? Most communities or neighborhoods hire a consultant to produce the nomination document because it is rather lengthy and includes photography and mapping requirements.

As mentioned above, Historic Preservation Fund grants are available to help offset the cost of hiring a consultant. A draft of the nomination should be submitted for SHPO staff review and comment. Once an acceptable draft is complete, the nomination is scheduled for consideration by the Historic Sites Board of Review.

What is the Historic Sites Board of Review? This governor-appointed board makes recommendations on the nomination of properties to the state and national registers. Nominations are presented to the board at their quarterly public meetings by SHPO staff or professional consultants. Nomination sponsors are encouraged to attend. If the board approves the nomination, the listing is added to the state register following the meeting. Those properties nominated to the National Register are then forwarded to the NPS for review and approval.
You Can Help Save Historic Treasures

The basis of historic preservation is remembering, appreciating, and sharing history with others, but even people who truly appreciate historic preservation may not know how to get personally involved and help preserve their cultural resources. The following are a few options for those who are interested in historic preservation but may not know where to begin.

**Building Owners**

Many people begin their involvement with preservation because they own a historic building.

As a building owner, several programs are available to promote the appreciation and preservation of a building. If the property is determined eligible, an owner can work with the Kansas State Historical Society’s State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to list the building on either the National Register of Historic Places or the Register of Historic Kansas Places. Both listings help to preserve the history and the historic character and elements have been preserved through changing times. All listed buildings are eligible for the State Rehabilitation Tax Credit program and the Heritage Trust Fund grant program (see page 14), both programs are administered through the SHPO. These incentive programs can help offset the cost of maintenance and repairs to historic buildings by using the Department of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation to help preserve the properties’ important historic characteristics.

Besides listing and maintaining a historic property, one of the best ways for a property owner to be involved is simply to appreciate the building. Understanding that one is the steward of a historic building and sharing it with others will promote awareness and pride in the historic resources of a community.

**Local Organizations**

Even if a person is not the owner of a historic property, he or she can advocate preservation in the community through involvement with local preservation groups. These groups are involved in preservation on different levels. There are neighborhood groups, city preservation alliances, and Certified Local Governments’ Historic Resources Commissions. All rely on public input and local people to make them effective. Depending on one’s community and desired level of involvement, these organizations offer a variety of opportunities for preservation efforts. And while working with a local organization, a person can learn even more about the history and development of the community, which can be one of the most rewarding aspects of working in preservation.

If the community does not currently have a preservation group, a person can work with city leaders and other community members to start a local group dedicated to preserving the history and the historic buildings of the town. A few dedicated people in a community can make a significant impact.

**State and National Organizations**

State and national organizations provide opportunities for involvement as well. The Kansas Preservation Alliance (KPA) actively advocates preservation throughout the state. Among its many activities, KPA sponsors annual preservation awards and provides additional tax incentives and a revolving loan program for the renovation of historic buildings. Every year the organization compiles an “Endangered List” of historic properties that are in danger of being lost. To find out more information about KPA, please visit its web site at www.kpalliance.org.

On a national scale, the National Trust for Historic Preservation advocates preservation and communicates preservation-related issues, successes, and challenges throughout the United States. Involvement at the national level brings understanding of preservation efforts elsewhere in the country; that valuable understanding can then be used to improve preservation within Kansas. For more information about the National Trust and its opportunities, please visit www.nationaltrust.org.

Other organizations are devoted to specific property types. The Kansas Barn Alliance and Barn Again! are two active groups devoted to the preservation of barns within Kansas and across the nation, respectively. Many other organizations work with urban, rural, or additional property types and preservation initiatives. Take the time to seek them out.

These are just a few of the options available to people interested in becoming actively involved with historic preservation in Kansas. Being involved—whether it is appreciation, sharing a property with the community, advocacy, or any other level—is important to creating awareness and an appreciation of the rich history of the State of Kansas.

Kristen Lonard
National Register Historian & State Tax Credit Reviewer
Many people think that the National Register of Historic Places only recognizes fancy buildings and the homes of important people. That is partially true—there are dozens of elegant Kansas buildings on the National Register, including the homes of President Dwight Eisenhower, railroad entrepreneur Fred Harvey, aviator Amelia Earhart, and former U.S. Vice President Charles Curtis—but the list is much more diverse. Kansas properties include archeological sites, farmsteads, industrial complexes, bridges, swimming pools, and, yes, a rock. Specifically, Pawnee Rock in western Barton County.

**Pawnee Rock**

Pawnee Rock, which is actually a rocky hilltop, served as a prominent landmark to travelers along the Santa Fe Trail. This “sandstone citadel” was also important to many Plains Indian tribes who used the vantage point to spot bison herds and approaching wagon trains. Hundreds of travelers stopped to carve their names in the soft sandstone. In 1848, on his way to fight in the Mexican War, U.S. soldier James Rich wrote: “Pawnee Rock was covered with names carved by men who had passed it. It was so full that I could find no place for mine.”

By the 1870s, much of Pawnee Rock had been removed by the railroads and by settlers seeking stone for building. The Woman’s Kansas Day Club recognized the importance of the site and purchased it in 1908. They transferred it to the State of Kansas in 1909 (see the web site at kshs.org.) Now as a KSHS-administered public historic site, it provides a platform upon which to discuss Native American cultures and the early days of white settlement. Pawnee Rock was added to the National Register in 1970.

The National Register categorizes Pawnee Rock as a “site.” The program also provides the framework to list important cultural and historical icons that may not be easily categorized as a site or a building. Bridges, stone walls, water towers, and roads, are typical examples of structures listed in the National Register. Technically, a
“structure” is a functional construction for purposes other than creating human shelter.

Parker Carousel

A not-so-typical example of a structure is a carousel. Forty-one carousels are listed on the National Register, but only one is in Kansas. Kansas was home to Charles W. Parker, a well-known manufacturer of carnival and amusement accessories during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Parker brought in craftsmen from Switzerland, Germany, and Austria to handcarve the horses. Of sixty-eight carousels built by the Parker firm in Abilene between 1896 and 1910, the Abilene carousel is one of only three that survive essentially intact. This ornate wooden carousel was returned to Abilene some twenty years ago and is now the only tangible evidence of the Parker company’s presence in the city. Parker Carousel is also a National Historic Landmark and was added to the National Register in 1987. (Interest in Parker is not limited to the Abilene carousel. The C. W. Parker Carousel Museum recently opened in Leavenworth, where Parker operated his business from 1910 until his death in 1932.)

Pawnee Rock and the Parker Carousel are hardly typical examples of listed historic properties in Kansas. The National Register also documents “ordinary” landscape features that tell important stories of our past. As historical geographer John Stilgoe (1998:179) has written, the “ordinary American landscape strikes almost no one as photogenic.” Or important, for that matter. It’s easy to overlook small, unassuming buildings, but they often embody just as much history as the most grand.

Susanna Salter House

Take, for instance, the home of the country’s first female mayor in the small western Sumner County town of Argonia (Billington 1954). This modest two-story red brick house, built between 1884 and 1885, was home to Susanna Madora Salter, who served as the town’s mayor in 1887. The story of Salter’s election suggests that political funny business is
After women were allowed to vote in city and school board elections in 1887, the Argonia Women’s Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) gathered to select a ticket of men they thought deserved office. For that same election, a group of men who opposed the temperance movement decided to teach the women a lesson: they put up an identical ticket, but substituted Salter for the mayoral candidate. Apparently the men expected all women to support the WCTU ticket and no man to vote for a woman, leaving Salter humiliated and driving WCTU women out of politics. Unaware that her name was on the ballot until election-day morning, Salter with her fellow WCTU members and some Republican businessmen then campaigned during the day to get voters to the polls. Elected by a two-thirds majority on April 4, 1887, Salter became, at age 27, the first female mayor in the United States. During her year as mayor, she worked harmoniously with the all-male city council, but she declined to run for re-election.

The fact that Salter’s home still stands provides the community and the region an opportunity to keep the story of Salter, suffrage, and the WCTU alive. It was added to the National Register in 1971. The Argonia and Western Sumner County Historical Society owns the house and operates it as a museum.
NHRA Drag Strip

A discussion of unique historic properties would not be complete without mentioning the National Hot Rod Association (Sunflower Rod and Custom Association) Drag Strip in Great Bend. Listed on the Register of Historic Kansas Places, and eligible for the National Register, this property was originally built by the U.S. Army as an airfield during World War II. The City of Great Bend purchased the base after the war, and the local racing club began using the airfield as their drag strip in the mid-1950s.

In the spring of 1955, the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce and the local racing club successfully recruited the NHRA to hold its national quarter-mile speed trials and national championship in Great Bend that year. During the four-day event, 219 cars competed in front of more than fifteen hundred spectators.

While drag racing is not something most people would equate with history, this historic site and others encourage us to look beyond traditional history and search for the overlooked and under-appreciated places listed on the national and state historic registers that have shaped our state’s heritage.

References Cited


Archeological sites make up a distinct minority among the 1,000 Kansas listings on the National Register of Historic Places. As of this writing, just seventy-seven individual sites and seven archeological districts are on the register. They do, however, represent a wide range of human occupation in the Central Plains, from the area’s earliest prehistoric occupation into the Historic period.

Archeological sites were among the first properties in the state to be listed in the early 1970s. The initial group included the largest and most prominent sites in the state; sites that had seen the region’s earliest baseline archeological research. Later in the 1970s and into the 1980s, individual sites and groups of sites combined into districts were added to the register, largely as the result of large-scale investigations conducted within federal reservoirs. Later additions tended to reflect the interests of individual researchers, rather than being tied to specific development projects.

National Register sites in Kansas can be roughly grouped into four categories: (1) Great Bend aspect or ancestral Wichita sites, (2) petroglyph sites, (3) prehistoric sites of individual importance, and (4) sites of the historic period.

Great Bend Aspect Sites

Sites defined by archeologists as belonging to the Great Bend aspect were occupied by peoples ancestral to the present-day Wichita Indian Tribe. The Wichita lived in large, settled villages composed of circular grass houses. Great Bend aspect sites listed on the National Register are located in Rice, McPherson, Marion, and Cowley Counties. It was to such villages that the Coronado Expedition came in 1541 searching for Quivira, which the explorers believed to be cities made of gold. What the Spaniards knew as Quivira is now known to be situated in Rice and McPherson Counties. It was to such villages that the Coronado Expedition came in 1541 searching for Quivira, which the explorers believed to be cities made of gold.

Based on a drawing by Tom Witty, former state archeologist, this is likely what the pueblo at El Cuartejo looked like when it was built by Pueblo Indians fleeing Spanish rule in what is now New Mexico.
Petroglyph Sites

Petroglyph sites are a unique resource in Kansas. Petroglyphs are designs carved into rock walls by prehistoric and early historic peoples over thousands of years. A wide variety of images are represented. Some, such as animals, hunting scenes, and details of warfare, are recognizable to modern researchers; while other images surely possessed significance and meaning to those who made them, but that information is lost to present-day viewers. Twenty-seven Kansas petroglyph sites are listed in the National Register, all placed there in 1982 as part of a thematic resource nomination. Such sites are restricted in geographic range, as they require exposed rock walls composed of material soft enough to accept designs. The cliffs and outcrops of the Dakota sandstone, especially those in Ellsworth and Russell Counties, were found by the Native Americans of the Central Plains to be ideal for this purpose. All but ten of the National Register petroglyph sites in the state are in these two counties. Others are in Greenwood, Kiowa, Lincoln, Montgomery, and Rice Counties, where suitable cliffs and outcrops are available. These sites are among the most threatened in the state because their high visibility makes them vulnerable to vandalism. Erosion and collapse of rock wall sections also destroyed several such sites.

Individual Prehistoric Sites

Prehistoric sites of individual importance constitute another major category of National Register properties in Kansas. They make up a diverse group and include properties such as the Fanning (14DP1) and Doniphan (14DP2) sites in Doniphan County, the William Young site (14MO304) in Morris County, the Minneapolis site (14OT5) in Ottawa County, and the Infinity site (14MY305) in Montgomery County, all of which were the locations of fundamental archeological research. A particularly important artifact, a small fired-ceramic face, was found during excavations at the William Young site, which is now inundated by the waters of Council Grove Reservoir. This artifact is one of the earliest human representations known from the Great Plains.
Another of the most notable National Register sites in this group is 14RP1, near the town of Republic in northern Republic County. This site was the location of a Pawnee village in the early 1800s. The property is owned by the Kansas State Historical Society and features several clearly visible earthen rings, indicating the locations of earthlodges. The highlight, though, is the Pawnee Indian Village Museum, which was built over the excavated remains of an earthlodge. This important site, listed on the National Register in 1971, allows visitors to see well-preserved archeological remains and to learn how they have been used to reconstruct and interpret the lifeways of the early nineteenth-century Pawnee.

Historic Period Sites

Archeological sites of the Historic Period (approximately 1500 A.D. to the present) are the least numerous National Register properties in Kansas, with just eight listed. Nevertheless, they represent a wide range of resources, including trail ruts, Civil War battlefields, military encampments, and town sites. Among the most important is El Cuartelejo (14SC1). This site consists of the ruins of a Southwestern-style Pueblo on the High Plains of western Kansas. The structure was built by a group of Pueblo Indians fleeing Spanish rule in what is today New Mexico. The site was investigated in the 1890s by geologists from the University of Kansas, and again in 1975 by the Kansas Archeology Training Program. Distinctive southwestern artifacts were recovered on both occasions. The ruins are accessible to the public in Scott State Park north of Scott City.

Another particularly significant historic site is the Mine Creek Civil War Battlefield (14LN337) in Linn County. Mine Creek is the largest Civil War battlefield in Kansas and was the site of a major engagement between Confederate and Union forces on October 25, 1864. A carefully controlled metal detector survey helped document details of the battle including the path taken by opposing forces and the locations of individual units during the battle. The battlefield is owned by the Kansas State Historical Society and the Mine Creek Battlefield Foundation. It is accessible to the public, and visitors may tour the museum and the surrounding battlefield. As archeological sites are such an important historic resource in Kansas, they will continue to be added to the National Register in the future. Two such nominations are currently in preparation, and others are planned.

Tim Weston, SHPO Archeologist

Pawnee Indian Village Museum was built over the excavated remains of an earthlodge in northern Republic County.

The pueblo ruins at El Cuartelejo near Scott City are also among the state’s National Historic Landmarks and are open to public viewing. (See related sketch on page 11.)
Heritage Trust Fund – More Than Money

In 2004, the Jenkins Building, a two-story commercial building in White City, Kansas, was placed on the Register of Historic Kansas Places. Part of the back wall had fallen, and an elevator was dangling in the rubble. Fighting gravity and time, the prospects for this historic building were grim. After considerable investment of time and money by the owner, a Heritage Trust Fund (HTF) grant was awarded to advance the restoration project. Now listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the building includes a law office, a residence, meeting space, and a future bed and breakfast. The actions of one farsighted and dedicated individual and an HTF grant not only saved a building, but also served to inspire an entire community.

Grants Helping to Rescue Neglected Buildings

The establishment of the HTF grant program in 1990 created a much-needed vehicle for providing funds for preservation of historic properties in Kansas. The sixteen years of the program’s existence have seen more than $12 million granted to 220 properties in 72 counties. The program has funded renovation, restoration, and preservation of brick, stone, masonry, wood, and steel windows. Foundations have been stabilized, and roofs now stand firm against the elements. Blueprints and historic structure documents have identified starting points for restoration of long neglected buildings. These accomplishments are the mechanics of the program, and many buildings would now be lost without the grant program’s assistance.

Along with these achievements, the most important element in the HTF grant program must be recognized: the people of Kansas. These projects did not just happen with the passage of a 1990 law. Kansas citizens make the HTF grant program the jewel that it is. Without dedicated people obtaining funding for grant matches, fulfilling the day-to-day grant obligations, finding new uses for historic buildings, directly monitoring the projects, and volunteering countless hours doing countless jobs to bring these projects to fruition, the funds might represent a futile effort to restore a few dilapidated buildings.

Providing Another Chapter

Whereas nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and Register of Historic Kansas Places explore the histories of properties, the HTF grant program applications delve into the past, present, and future plans for properties. A register nomination provides the first chapter of a property’s story. The HTF grant program adds another chapter to the historical significance of the listed property, and with this new chapter comes new participants. The applicants and grant recipients care about the buildings as passionately now as the original and subsequent owners once did.

Among the ranks of the HTF recipients is a barn near Wakefield, built in 1910. The farm is still owned by descendants of the original owners. The barn’s stone arches began to fail through time. Fortunately, the original wooden framework or molding that was used to build the impressive masonry stone arches had been stored in the barn since its completion. In 2003, the molding was once again used to repair the arches. The HTF grant program helped.

Also included in the list of HTF grant projects is a house in Leavenworth, formerly owned by Fred Harvey, the gentleman reputed to have civilized the West. His home passed through decades of indignities, multiple uses, and the removal of its impressive dormers. With sufficient documentation, an HTF grant helped renovate the missing features. The dormers are back, and the building will become a museum to honor Harvey.

In Wellsville, a one-room schoolhouse is currently used as a community center. The 2004 HTF grant application contains handwritten letters of support, including a memorable letter from a former teacher who began her Pleasant Valley School career in 1948. Other letters vividly express the value of the building as a main factor in the desire to keep a community together.
Another unforgettable project is the “Dog House” of well-known writer Edgar Watson Howe. The doghouse occupant was not of the four-legged variety. The small cottage in Atchison was Howe’s favorite hangout, and it now features educational information about the writer.

Investing in Communities

HTF grants have helped save a variety of historic buildings: houses, hotels, bridges, forts, museums, jails, schools, stadiums, churches, water towers, post offices, barns, memorial buildings, memorials, farm/ranch historic districts, banks, art centers, cellars, libraries, fire stations, and more. The compelling stories associated with these buildings touch the lives of many dedicated people from every corner of Kansas.

HTF grants act as catalysts to inspire communities to take action to preserve their local history. According to one report, 69 percent of project administrators responded to an HTF questionnaire that HTF projects improved the quality of life in their communities. Their responses indicated that for every HTF dollar awarded, nearly seventeen additional dollars are expended on improving the grant recipient properties.

The survey suggests that, in addition to helping preserve historic properties, the grant program is helping people find new interest in preserving historic properties in their communities. Their responses indicated that for every HTF dollar awarded, nearly seventeen additional dollars are expended on improving the grant recipient properties.

In 1990, the following proclamation became state law: “There is hereby established in the state treasury the Heritage Trust Fund. All moneys deposited in the Heritage Trust Fund shall be used for the purpose of awarding grants to assist historic preservation projects involving property included in the National Register of Historic Places or the state register of historic places, excluding property owned by the state or federal government, and shall be used by the state historical society for the administration of the Heritage Trust Fund program.”

Teresa Kiss
Grants Manager
Preservation Resources

Heritage Trust Fund


The Keys to Rehabilitation Success:

Dedicated Kansans

The Douglas County Courthouse in Lawrence is inspected by (left to right) Jackie Waggoner, project administrator; Bill Bell, maintenance director; and KSHS National Register Coordinator Sarah Martin. A grant to the county allowed preparation of a historic structure report. The courthouse was listed in the National Register in 1975.

Retired University of Kansas professor Dennis Dailey owns the Robert Miller House in Lawrence, listed in 1984. HTF funds allowed Dailey to stabilize walls and structural features and acquire a historic structure report.

With the help of HTF funds, brickwork was repointed and the roof was replaced at the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atchison. The church was listed last year. Adrian Boldridge served as project administrator.
Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad Depot, Madison, Listed 1991

Fremme-Birney Round Barn, Mullinville vicinity, Listed 1987

Norris Service Station, Glen Elder, Listed 1976

Windsor Hotel, Garden City, Listed 1972

Old Dutch Mill, Wamego, Listed 1973
Americans are proud of their heritage and are honored when properties in their communities are entered in the National Register. Historic properties in a community are tangible links with the nation’s past that help provide a sense of identity and stability. The National Register—which recognizes the values of properties across the nation as diverse as a dugout shelter of an Oklahoma pioneer settler, Vanderbilt mansions, and a 12,000-year-old prehistoric site—has helped many to appreciate the richness and variety of their heritage.

Diversity and rich heritage are also found among the 1,000 Kansas listings. A variety of properties are featured throughout this special commemorative issue—from a humble log cabin to a grand hotel, rock art to a wooden carousel, and historic homes to stately courthouses.

Listing properties in the National Register often changes the way communities perceive their historic resources and gives credibility to efforts of private citizens and public officials to preserve these resources as living parts of our communities.

In case you’re counting...

- Douglas County boasts the most National Register listings with fifty-seven (historic districts count as one listing).
- Thirty-eight county courthouses are listed.
- Seven counties have no National Register listings: Haskell, Kearny, Meade, Stanton, Stevens, Seward*, and Wichita.*

*One property on the state register.
Many of the state’s 1,000 National Register listings are included within 23 thematic or Multiple Property Submissions (MPS).

- Metal Truss Bridges in Kansas 1861-1939
- Railroad Resources of Kansas
- Lustron Houses of Kansas
- Kansas Post Offices with Artwork 1936-1942
- Civil War Era National Cemeteries
- Carnegie Libraries of Kansas
- Masonry Arch Bridges
- Historic County Courthouses of Kansas
- Rainbow Arch Bridge
- Rock Art
- Santa Fe Trail
- Byre and Bluff Barns of Doniphan County
- New Deal-era Resources of Kansas
- Route 66 in Kansas
- Aboriginal Lithic Source Areas in Kansas
- Historic Resources of Lawrence
- National Guard Armories of Kansas
- Nebraska-Kansas Public Land Survey
- Prehistoric Sites of Stranger Creek Basin
- Commercial and Industrial Resources of Hutchinson
- Theaters and Opera Houses of Kansas
- Brenner Vineyards Historic District
- Public Schools of Kansas
Register of Historic Kansas Places


Visit www.kshs.org for locations and more information about the Register of Historic Kansas Places.

Evangelical Covenant Mission Church, Osage City, Listed 1979

The John Steuart Curry Boyhood Home, Oskaloosa, Listed 1997
For the past thirty years, the National Park Service has worked in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service and the State Historic Preservation Offices to administer the Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit program for income-producing historic properties. The program provides a federal income tax credit equal to 20 percent of qualifying rehabilitation expenses. Changes to the tax regulations and other aspects of the program occurred over the decades, but it has remained one of the most effective tools of preservationists. The program promotes the preservation and adaptive reuse of historic buildings through economic development.

In Kansas, the federal tax credit program has been active since the late 1970s, but the activity has been very limited in comparison to other states. For many years, Kansas’ neighbor to the east, Missouri, ranked at the top of the list for numbers of projects and for investments by property owners in these rehabilitations. Kansas saw fifty-four federal tax credit projects between 1980 and 2001. The owners of those projects invested $28,275,000 in their properties. During those years, Kansas ranked between thirty-second and forty-eighth among the states and territories for numbers of projects and amounts invested.

Beginning in 2001, Kansas added a second tax credit tool: its State Rehabilitation Tax Credit program. This program provides a state income tax credit equal to 25 percent of the project’s qualifying expenses. It can be used with the federal program for income-producing historic buildings or used alone for private residences and other nonprofit buildings.

Kansas has seen more federal tax credit projects and more investment in historic rehabilitation in the last five years than in the previous twenty. Since

The rehabilitation of the Manhattan Union Pacific Depot was recently completed by the City of Manhattan. The city utilized Transportation Enhancement Grants from the Kansas Department of Transportation and the State Tax Credit Program to help with the cost. The original entry tower—which was destroyed in 1938 due to structural problems—was replaced based on the original construction drawings, while the interior was rehabilitated for use by the community.
Phase one of the rehabilitation of the Crystal Plaza Theater in Ottawa is complete. With the assistance of state and federal tax credits, the façade, lobby, restrooms, and two auditoria have been rehabilitated for modern use as a movie theater. The building was originally built in 1885 but was remodeled in 1936 in its current Art Deco style.

The McPherson Opera House has utilized State and Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits, as well as a Heritage Trust Fund grant, for several phases of rehabilitation work, including exterior masonry repairs and a new metal shingle mansard roof. Currently work is progressing in the front retail and office spaces. Rehabilitation of the auditorium will begin soon.

2001, sixty-five federal tax credit projects were completed, with an additional 173 new state tax credit projects. These 238 projects represent an investment of more than $98 million in Kansas’ historic properties.

According to the Preservation Economic Impact Model (prepared by Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, for the National Park Service), that investment of more than $98 million in Kansas created 4,217 jobs nationwide, produced more than $204 million in gross domestic product, and generated more than $18 million in state and local tax revenues.

The combined tools of the federal and state tax credits help property owners maintain and rehabilitate historic Kansas properties. Keeping these programs effective may mean changes in the coming years and decades. With the support of all those involved with preservation and rehabilitation, these programs can continue to provide a valuable incentive for preservation.

Katrina L. Ringler
Tax Credit Programs Coordinator
Historic Preservation Fund
Planning for Preservation

Each year the U.S. Congress appropriates approximately $37 million to the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF). This fund provides matching grants to encourage investment in historic preservation by assisting states, territories, and Indian tribes in their efforts to protect and preserve properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Since 1968, more than $1 billion in grant funds has been awarded to fifty-nine states, territories, Indian tribes, local governments, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The HPF appropriation is derived from Outer Continental Shelf mineral receipts.

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) administers the Historic Preservation Fund grant program to finance activities that will contribute to planning for the preservation of our built environment and archeological resources. In Kansas, the State Historic Preservation Officer, a governor appointee, is Jennie Chinn, executive director of the Kansas State Historical Society. Working with the Historic Sites Board of Review—a governor-appointed board that must meet specific qualifications established by the National Park Service—the SHPO nominates properties to the National Register and selects properties for assistance.

The state also contracts with public and private agencies, nonprofit organizations, higher educational institutions, and individuals to carry out subgrant activities. HPF subgrants are directed toward giving those entities information and means to support preservation efforts in their own communities. Eligible activities include surveys to identify a community’s historic structures and archeological sites, archeological testing to assess National Register eligibility, preparation of National Register nominations, development of city or county historic preservation plans, and historic preservation-related educational activities.

Since 1993, the HPF grant program in Kansas has funded projects totaling $2,374,607 and, since 2000, has helped fund more than twenty-eight historic district nominations and more than thirty-four surveys of potential historic districts.

In addition, the Historic Preservation Fund provides financial assistance for the annual state preservation conference, preservation-related workshops, Certified Local Government interns, and various educational materials, including historic district walking tour brochures.

Projects completed in the past year include National Register historic district nominations for Seneca, Chestnut Street in Hays, Mt. Oread in Lawrence, downtown Ottawa, and College Hill in Topeka; as well as the inventory and nominations of Works Progress Administration (WPA) structures in Wichita; and the Kansas State University (KSU) archeological survey of Little Stranger Creek Valley. Walking tour brochures were also funded for the City of Independence and Arkansas City.

Looking Ahead

A sampling of projects to be completed in 2007 includes two districts in Leavenworth, one in Manhattan, and one in Ellsworth; a central business district survey in Wichita; multiple property submission and nominations for historic properties in Highland; a survey of buildings in Onaga; and design review guidelines for the City of Lawrence.

Archeological projects have been funded for both KSU and the University of Kansas (KU). KSU is completing additional survey projects along Little Stranger Creek valley near Tonganoxie, and KU is documenting the first Kansans through investigations at the Kanorado Archeological Locality.

HPF workshops are held in August, and the annual application deadline is November 15. Additional information may be found at kshs.org/resources/grantsincentives.

Teresa Kiss
Grants Manager

Living the Legend Through Preservation

The Kansas State Historic Preservation Conference will be May 10-12, 2007, in historic Dodge City.

Still in the planning stages, anticipated sessions are historic windows, barns, forts, sacred places, bed and breakfasts, tax credits, rock art, the statehouse renovation project, researching a historic property, and marketing historic properties. Participants also will experience local history, great tours, and much more.

Save the date for a taste of the old west with a twist of preservation, topped with a great time.
The Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review held its regular quarterly meeting at the Kansas State Historical Society on November 18, 2006. The board recommended the addition of fifteen listings to the National Register of Historic Places and two properties to the Register of Historic Kansas Places. Below are summaries of the nominated properties.

**National Register of Historic Places**

**Reiff Building**  
Dorrance, Russell County

The Reiff Building is not only important for its social, civic, and cultural history, but also because it retains its architectural integrity as an early twentieth-century commercial style building. In 1910, Harvey Anspaugh purchased three lots in downtown Dorrance. With the assistance of his brother Hiram, they began the design and construction of the two-story limestone building, which would serve both commercial and entertainment functions. A. C. Reiff, who operated a farm supply business out of the building until World War II, purchased the property from Anspaugh soon after its construction. It now houses the collections and displays of the Dorrance Historical Society Museum. Reflective of many late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century opera houses across Kansas, the Reiff Building featured an opera house on the second floor of a commercial building in the heart of a downtown.

**Atchison County Memorial Hall**  
Atchison, Atchison County

The Atchison County Memorial Hall, constructed in 1922, is a two-story, buff brick, Neo-Classical style building in downtown Atchison. A variety of traveling theater companies played there during the 1920s and 1930s. From opening day forward, well-known headliners drew large crowds. The management contracted with the well-known New York-based theatrical booking agencies of Klaw & Erlanger and the Shuert Brothers, thereby securing some of the best theatri-
Since its construction in 1922, the Neo-Classical-style Atchison County Memorial Hall has been a centerpiece for the community.

cal attractions on the road. On May 18, 1922, Madame Ernestine Schumann-Heink (1861-1936) became the first professional artist to appear at Atchison County Memorial Hall. Other noted celebrities who have appeared at the hall include U.S. Vice President Charles Curtis; aviator Amelia Earhart; and singers Harry James, Pee Wee Erwin, and Ike and Tina Turner. This building also reflects the important interaction between the white and African American residents of Atchison. The memorial plaque on the building’s façade lists the names of all service personnel killed in military action. In addition, this building housed meeting rooms for both white and black American Legion posts.

Mullen Court Apartments
Wichita, Sedgwick County

Built in 1949, the Mullen Court Apartments are an example of a multifamily residence built in the Moderne Style. Both its location in one of Wichita’s older central residential neighborhoods and its architectural style reflect the construction of new apartment buildings during the period to accommodate Wichita’s rapidly growing population. J. B. Muller and J. C. Lamb built the building for local apartment developer/manager Mrs. Eva Mercer Gilham. The buff brick walls, low horizontal form, glass block sidelights, and horizontal muntins convey the building’s Moderne styling. It retains integrity of location and setting, its character defining stylistic elements, and materials from its period of significance.

Downtown Manhattan Historic District
Manhattan, Riley County

The Downtown Manhattan Historic District is slightly more than six square blocks in area, encompassing historic commercial and civic buildings within the central business district. The buildings represent changing tastes, fashions, and construction methods in American architecture. More than 30 percent of the district’s 175 resources reflect the Queen Anne Style. Oread Historic District also includes several more modest National Folk-type homes of the working class and later examples of residential styles that were popular in the early twentieth century.
Homes in Lawrence’s Mount Oread Historic District

939 and 933 Tennessee Street

1015 Tennessee Street

1127 Ohio Street

1008 Ohio Street
in downtown Manhattan interpret the history of the community’s permanent commercial development, from the construction of the first business in the 1860s to the development and expansion of an enclosed regional shopping mall in the 1980s and 1990s. This collection of sixty-six buildings reflects a wide range of architectural styles from vernacular two-part commercial blocks to 1950s modern designs. Construction dates evenly span three eras: before 1900, 1900-1919, and 1920-1957. Only 3 percent were constructed after 1957.

Paradise Water Tower
Paradise, Russell County
The Paradise Water Tower was constructed in 1938 as part of a larger water works improvement project sponsored by the Works Progress Administration. The project employed some thirty-five men, who quarried the stone from the Wellington Ranch south of Paradise and built the structure in about four months. Common laborers were paid 25 cents per hour, and carpenters and masons received 50 cents an hour. This cylindrical structure is made of rusticated limestone blocks, and is 17 feet in diameter, 35 feet tall, and has a capacity of 58,000 gallons. It features a double-door entrance with an Art Deco-inspired limestone surround.

College Hill Park Bathhouse
Wichita, Sedgwick County
The College Hill Park bathhouse was constructed as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project in 1937. It represents the Wichita parks department’s use of federal assistance during the Depression to continue park improvements and provide jobs for unemployed Wichitans. WPA workers carried out a substantial amount of construction and maintenance in the city’s park system, which had been delayed due to the Depression. The city acquired the undeveloped 22-acre College Hill Park just before the stock market crash of 1929. With severe budgetary restrictions facing all city departments during the 1930s, any development plans for a new section were put on hold. With the establishment of the WPA, the parks department expanded its development plans. The city hired the renowned Kansas City landscape architectural firm of Hare & Hare to prepare plans for College Hill Park, and in 1935 hired local architect Edward Forsblom for the design of the bathhouse, which opened in June 1937. The building is also significant as a good example of the Spanish Colonial Revival style as applied to a park building during the Depression era.

Linwood Park Greenhouse and Maintenance Building
Wichita, Sedgwick County
Charles S. Aldrich donated 160 acres to the City of Wichita in 1887, establishing South Linwood Park in the Linwood Park Addition. Although the prestigious landscape architectural firm of Hare & Hare was hired in 1947 to plan a group picnic area in South Linwood Park, few some development before the onset of the Great Depression, its most notable feature being the Park Villa shelter house. The Park Villa shelter encouraged families to visit, but the park lacked restroom facilities. Lewis William Clapp, president of the Board of Park Commission, designed the comfort station, which was constructed as a Civil Works Administration project in 1934. It represented the first new construction in a city park to be federally funded by New Deal workers. The comfort station is an excellent example of the Art Deco style as applied to a utilitarian park building. It is significant for its high artistic values evidenced on a small scale, and as a type of construction—Carthalite—that originated in Wichita. Carthalite was a local trade name for a mixture of concrete mortar mixed with crushed glass and pigmentation.

Sim Park Golf Course Tee Shelters
Wichita, Sedgwick County
The Sim Park Golf Course Tee Shelters are located in Sim Park, an approximate 181-acre tract in a bend on the west side of the Arkansas River between Thirteenth Street and Central Avenue. Specifically, the shelters can be found on the thirteenth, fifteenth, and eighteenth tees of the Sim Park golf course. Before the onset of the Depression, the golf course, clubhouse, and Memorial Entrance to Sim Park had been completed. As the largest park in Wichita’s system, Sim Park was the recipient of numerous New Deal-planned projects during the Depression, many of which were attributed to the National Youth Administration. These are the only recorded extant resources in Wichita built by this New Deal program, which was geared toward the youth of America. The stone tee shelter structures show the influence of Rustic Park architecture in their design, as evidenced by their stone construction, buttressed base, and exposed rafters and beams.

Stuewe House
Alma, Wabaunsee County
The Stuewe House is significant for its association with the early development of Alma and as the location of the Stuewe Brothers Creamery. Brothers Albert and Ferdinand Stuewe purchased a small limestone house (c. 1873) on the west edge of Alma in 1884 where they operated their creamery and cattle businesses for fifty years. The current appearance of
New Deal Projects in Wichita Parks

Sim Park Golf Course Tee Shelter

College Hill Park Bathhouse

Linwood Park Greenhouse and Maintenance Building

North Riverside Park Comfort Station

Detailed brickwork adorning the North Riverside Park Comfort Station.
the house dates to 1885 when the brothers built a two-story addition. Albert and Ferdinand, who established the Bank of Alma (later renamed Alma State Bank) in 1895, were community leaders who played significant roles in the development of Alma. Ferdinand served as Wabaunsee County treasurer, state representative, and president of Alma State Bank. They employed several area residents to assist with business operations; some boarded at the Stuewe House. In 1891, the brothers invited members of their extended family to join in the development of their successful business; the creamery and cattle businesses became a true family venture. The property remained in the Stuewe family until the 1960s.

Kennedy Hotel
Paradise, Russell County
As one of the earliest buildings erected in Paradise, Kansas, the Kennedy Hotel (c. 1888, 1936) is significant for its association with the early development of Paradise. The construction of the limestone hotel in 1888 was documented in area newspapers including the Waldo Enterprise and the Russell Record. Catherine Kennedy, who also served as postmaster, opened her hotel in September 1888. Although she soon sold the property, the building operated as a hotel until 1913 when it became the private home of the Samuel Brown family. During the Great Depression, Brown lost his downtown grocery business to a fire. He added onto the nominated property and reopened his business. Since the construction of the original two-story limestone hotel building in 1888, the property changed and evolved to reflect the needs and uses of its first four owners. The changes and additions, all made within the historic period of significance, help convey the history of a property that served as a hotel, grocery store, and private residence.

Memorial City Hall
Ellis, Ellis County
Like memorial buildings built throughout Kansas after World War I, the Memorial City Hall (c.1926) in Ellis was erected to serve three functions: to stand as a monument to fallen and returning military personnel, to provide a place for local gatherings and entertainment, and to house city government offices. In 1924, the local American Legion post initiated talk of building a memorial hall, and a special city election was held on January 26, 1925, during which citizens approved $42,000 in bonds to construct the building. The city hired architect Thomas S. Howard to oversee the project, and the building was officially dedicated to the community during a ceremony on Memorial Day, May 31, 1926. Except two nonhistoric exterior vestibules added to the north side, the building maintains its
scale, massing, design, and materials. In particular, the historic character-defining exterior elements remain intact. The interior has undergone changes that include partitioning the auditorium and installing a dropped ceiling. These changes, however, are reversible and the space could be returned to its historic function as an open auditorium. It continues to serve Ellis as a meeting place and community museum.

Franklin Sidewalk
Franklin/Arma Vicinity, Crawford County

Constructed in 1936 with federal funding assistance, the Franklin Sidewalk connects the two rural mining communities of Arma and Franklin. It was built, in part, due to increased foot traffic along U.S. Highway 69 caused by school consolidation in the late 1920s. Franklin was smaller than Arma and was hit hard by the declining mining industry in the late 1920s and 1930s. Franklin residents relied heavily on businesses in Arma for goods and services. Safe pedestrian travel between Arma and Franklin appears to have been the key reason for the sidewalk’s construction. State Highway Commission records show that the sidewalk was built as part of a 1.7-mile project that involved improvements to ditches and drainage, bridges and culverts, grubbing hedges, grading, surfacing, grass seeding, and signage. The 3-foot-wide sidewalk begins at the south edge of Arma, stretches south 1.7 miles to the south edge of Franklin, and runs parallel along the east side of Business Highway 69.

Bowker House
Topeka, Shawnee County

Located southeast of the Kansas Statehouse, this two-story limestone residence was built in 1866 by Reverend Samuel Bowker to serve as a boarding house for students of Lincoln College. Bowker traveled the country fundraising for Lincoln College, which opened in 1865. The classroom building was located at the corner of Twelfth Avenue and Jackson Streets. In 1868, Lincoln College was renamed Washburn College in recognition of a large donation received from Ichabod Washburn, a church deacon and resident of Worcester, Massachusetts. The boarding house continued to serve area students until the 1880s when it became a private home. It is the only extant resource associated with Lincoln College and is believed to be one of the oldest continuously inhabited houses in Topeka.

Register of Historic Kansas Places

Kaufman Building
Wichita, Sedgwick County

Built in 1924, Wichita’s Kaufman Building is significant for its association with Wichita’s role as a wholesale wheat-trading center during the 1920s and as an example of architect-designed early twentieth-century fireproof commercial construction. Local entrepreneur Hilbert Kaufman commissioned the building in 1922 and hired the Chicago-based architecture firm of Eberston and Weaver to design his building. When it opened in 1924, the Kaufman Building provided office space for a growing number of wheat-related organizations and businesses that flocked to the community. In addition to Kaufman’s offices, 1925 occupants included the Kansas Co-op Wheat Marketing Association, the Kansas Wheat Growers Association, and the Wheat Growers’ Journal. The Great Depression hit the Kansas wheat industry hard and by all of the wheat and grain-related businesses had moved out. Throughout the mid-twentieth century, the building continued to house a variety of business types, many of them related to oil production, insurance, and credit industries. It has been vacant since 1996. The exterior of the Kaufman Building represents the early twentieth-century Commercial Style. This style is most often seen in downtown commercial buildings from the 1910s and 1920s.

Alfred Landon House
Independence, Montgomery County

The Alfred Landon House is a three-story home, built in 1901 by local contractor A. E. Todd, who built more than twenty-five Independence homes. It represents the large turn-of-the-century Queen Anne Style with the usual broad gables and sloping roof. The house has 4,720 square feet of living space including two stairways, 10-foot ceilings on the first floor, three fireplaces, four full bathrooms, and sixty-two windows. The Landon House is significant for its association with businessman and politician Alfred M. Landon, who served as the governor of Kansas from 1932 to 1936 and ran as the Republican nominee for president of the United States against incumbent Democrat Franklin Roosevelt in 1936. He owned the house from 1915 to 1937. In early 2005, the Independence Historical Museum acquired the house to save it from demolition. The house was moved from its original location at 300 East Maple to its current location at 300 South Eighth to make way for a new Walgreen’s drug store.
Preservation in the News

This column summarizes preservation-related stories that have recently made the news in Kansas. For confirmation or more information, the media source is credited. The KSHS staff is not responsible for the content of the news items, nor have all the details been independently verified. If you know of other Kansas preservation topics in the news, please contact us at cultural_resources@kshs.org or (785) 272-8681 Ext. 225.

Congress recently approved the Bleeding Kansas National Heritage Area, highlighting the region’s Civil War history. The area includes twenty-nine counties in eastern Kansas and twelve in western Missouri. The designation gives the area access to grants and federal funding to help highlight Civil War history throughout the area.

“Congress approves national heritage area in Kan., Mo.”
Lawrence Journal World, September 30, 2006 at ljworld.com
For more information about the National Heritage Area, also see the September-October 2005 issue of Kansas Preservation.

The City of Overland Park recently approved changes to its historic landmarks ordinance. The changes, approved in October, add a process for creating a historic district, add new stipulations to landmark applications, restrict what changes can be made to buildings with local landmark status, and limit when people can apply for local landmark status. The ordinance also increases the amount of money required to list local landmarks, and proposes substantial fines for alterations without a permit on landmarks that are currently listed. Critics say that the changes will make it more difficult to preserve historic properties in Overland Park because the potential financial penalties involved with listing local landmarks will turn people away.

“Opponents of changes say they will discourage historic preservation in Overland Park”
The Kansas City Star, October 18, 2006, at kctstar.com

Plans by Sedgwick County to create a new downtown sports arena in the City of Wichita could affect several historic properties. Several properties that are eligible for listing on the state and National Registers have been slated for demolition, causing outcry among the building’s owners. City and county officials are now working with the State Historic Preservation Office to ensure that the plans follow state and federal preservation laws.

“One of the few remaining properties associated with the College of Emporia received a temporary reprieve from demolition. A district court judge granted a temporary injunction filed by the Lyon County Historical Society, delaying the demolition of Kenyon Hall until spring. The owners want to tear down the building to make way for a 15,000 square-foot senior housing project. Preservationists are urging the owners to rehabilitate Kenyon Hall for senior housing, thus preserving the historic landmark. Kenyon Hall is not currently listed on the state or National Register, but is eligible.

“Bond required of Preservationists”
The Emporia Gazette, November 4, 2006, at emporiagazette.com

Kristen Lonard
National Register Historian & State Tax Credit Reviewer

KAA Offers
Lithic Technology Certification Seminar

Anyone interested in learning more about lithic technology is encouraged to attend a seminar February 17-18, 2007, in Lindsborg, Kansas. The seminar, part of the Kansas Anthropological Association’s (KAA) Certification Program, takes place in Lindquist Hall on the Bethany College campus.

The Lithic Technology class explores the history and importance of lithic technology studies in archeology. Students will practice basic analysis methods— including sorting, classifying, measuring, and recording information—along with a variety of other hands-on activities.

The instructor is Shannon R. Ryan, Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Kansas. Ryan participated in the Kansas Archeology Training Program field schools at the Claussen site in 2003 and the Kanorado Locality in 2005.

Flintknappers Randy Clark of Wichita and Bryan Simmons of Pratt will demonstrate knapping techniques. Other flintknappers are welcome.

Although Lithic Technology is not one of the core course requirements for the KAA Certification Program, it can count as an elective for Advanced Archeological Surveyor, Advanced Archeological Crew Member, or Advanced Archeological Laboratory Technician.

Pre-register by January 22, 2007, by sending your name, mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number (and cell number, if applicable) to Virginia Wulfkuhle at vwulfkuhle@kshs.org or (785) 272-8681 Ext. 266. Please supply as much contact information as possible in case there is a need to communicate quickly with those who have pre-registered.

A $10 per person course fee is due the first day of the seminar. A minimum of fifteen students must be enrolled for the course to be offered.

Certification requires participation on both Saturday and Sunday; however, participants do not need to be enrolled in the KAA Certification Program to take the class. KAA membership is required, and non-members are welcome to join in Lindsborg at the time of check-in. Membership rates are $5 for students, $22 for individuals, and $25 for families. Beverages will be provided for breaks. Feel free to bring snacks to share.
For the first time since 1966, the Plains Anthropological Conference was held in Topeka, November 8-11. This conference is a venue for anthropologists working in the Great Plains to present the results of their research. Over the two-and-a-half-day meeting, four concurrent sessions featured more than 200 papers. While archeological studies dominated, there were also presentations on ethnography, ethnohistory, and biological anthropology.

Events associated with the conference included field trips to the Claussen archeological site in Wabaunsee County (the location of the 2003 Kansas Archeology Training Program field school) and the Museum of the Steamboat Arabia in Kansas City.

A Thursday evening reception at the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) included tours of the museum gallery and the Archeology Lab. Approximately one hundred twenty-five people viewed rarely displayed items, including a representative sample of pots, arranged in a chronological order from the Early Ceramic period (A.D. 1-1000) to historic Fort Hays (A.D. 1865-1889); numerous ethnographic items from tribes in Kansas and the surrounding states; examples of large biface caches of Smoky Hill Jasper; a catlinite incised tablet; and a figure of a rabbit incised on a piece of hematite. Pictures of Kansas rock art and early nineteenth-century archeology were also displayed.

Following the Friday evening banquet was a talk entitled “James R. Mead’s Memoir: Some Anthropological and Historical Considerations” by Dr. Schuyler Mead Jones, a KSHS, Inc. board member. Dr. Jones edited and published the accounts of his grandfather, James R. Mead, in the book Hunting and Trading on the Great Plains 1859-1875, published by the University of Oklahoma Press in 1986.

More than four hundred people attended the conference, making this one of the largest Plains Conferences in recent memory. The conference was hosted by the KSHS, the University of Kansas, and Washburn University.
New Highway Archeologist Hired

Tricia Waggoner joined the staff on November 6, 2006, as the Highway Archeologist.

She comes to the Kansas State Historical Society from Wichita State University, where she earned her bachelor’s degree with a major in anthropology and minor in history. She received a master’s degree in anthropology from WSU as well, and served as the Wichita City Archaeologist while a graduate student there. She has participated in fieldwork in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas, and Montana (in Yellowstone National Park).

Tricia is married with two young daughters, Breena and Cheyenne. Tricia moved from Wichita to Topeka for the position and looks forward to learning about Topeka and working at the KSHS.