Kitkahahki
Archeology

See story on page 13.
Preservation in the News

The historic Emporia Granada Theater on Commercial Street in downtown Emporia is nearing the end of a major rehabilitation project to restore the theater and make it a centerpiece for the community. Built in 1929, the theater was listed in the National Register of Historic places in 1985 for its architectural significance as one of the few Moorish Revival-style buildings in Kansas.

In 2007 the Emporia Granada Theatre Alliance began working on a $3 million rehabilitation of the historic theater. The alliance is utilizing both the federal and state rehabilitation tax credit programs, which will provide tax credits of 20 percent and 25 percent, respectively, of the total amount of qualified expenses. In order to receive these credits, projects on state or National Register-listed properties must be approved by the State Historic Preservation Office before construction begins. These tax credit incentives can often make the difference in the financial viability of restoration projects and help to ensure the preservation of unique historic resources.

Find out more about the building's October 3, 2008, grand opening and future events planned at the theater:
Emporia Granada Theater website: emporiagranada.com


Find out more about rehabilitation tax credits:
kshs.org/resource/taxcredits.htm
By 1958 Kansas had 138 roadside parks or rest areas on its system of primary highways and an additional 70 picnic table sites. The roadside parks and rest areas ranged in size from one to five acres and included parking areas, picnic tables, fireplaces, and shelter houses – more than half of them had toilet facilities, a remarkably high number compared to other state programs of the time. Speaking at the 1958 Ohio Short Course on Roadside Development C. Frank Virr, of the Kansas State Highway Commission, spoke highly of the state’s roadside development program, saying these sites are “an essential part of the modern highway and provide a necessary service, enhancing the comfort, safety and pleasure of the motorist.”

Kansas, like many other states, had been working for decades to develop and maintain roadside facilities when Congress passed the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956. This legislation created the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways and carried with it a provision for the construction of safety rest areas (SRAs) within Interstate rights-of-way. In 1958 A Policy on Safety Rest Areas for the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways was issued by the American Association of State Highway Officials (AASHO). The publication defined site guidelines and national standardization requirements, “Rest areas are to be provided on Interstate highways as a safety measure. Safety rest areas are off-road spaces with provisions for emergency stopping and resting by motorists for short periods. They have freeway type entrances and exit connections, parking areas, benches and tables and may have toilets and water supply where proper maintenance and supervision are...
assured. They may be designed for short-time picnic use in addition to parking of vehicles for short periods. They are not to be planned as local parks.”

The safety rest areas were based on existing roadside parks – facilities that American drivers had come to appreciate and expect in the decades proceeding Interstate construction. The very first roadside parks were built in places that had been sited by drivers stopping to fulfill necessity or pleasure; in short time state highway departments began locating roadside parks at regular intervals, providing safe pull-offs for highway travelers. Highway officials recognized that people would stop along the nation’s highways, establishing particular points for stopping reduced the number of automobiles parked at random and provided a location that drivers could stop at a safe and comfortable distance from the traffic of the roadway. Roadside parks offered respite from the demands of travel and provided an opportunity for travelers to experience local places.

The limited access nature of Interstate highways transformed the American travel experience. Once a sensory montage created by one’s movement through and stopping within the landscape, limited access restructured this experience by dictating where drivers could enter and leave the roadway. A stop within a safety rest area was often the only physical contact travelers had with regions they were passing through. Before the development of interchange business there were few options for stopping available to drivers on newly constructed stretches of Interstate highway. SRAs took the place of both the roadside park and the roadside store, providing travelers a place to stop, rest, eat a picnic lunch, appreciate local landscapes, and enjoy the use of comfort facilities.

The functionality of these sites made feasible the less tangible directive of connecting people with the regions they passed through – replacing the local flavor that would have once been readily accessible from the roadway; creating a sense of place, an identifier of state and/or region, for travelers who may not otherwise have direct contact with local environments. This regional identification was one of the primary directives of SRA developers, and characteristics were employed in several ways. SRA buildings were sometimes designed to reflect local cultures, historical markers were included that discussed local heritage, and where possible SRAs were located in scenic areas, providing travelers visual access to local landscapes. In 1970 the Federal Highway Administration publication Safety Rest Area Development defined the nature of such design, “The historical background of the site may be about the people and events that led to the settlement of the area ... its economics or local industry.”

Kansas officials designed their Interstate safety rest area program in 1958. Their plan, based on the AASHO policy guidelines, called for 20 pairs of SRAs or safety turn-outs on a projected 800 miles of Interstate highway. The sites would be larger than their roadside park predecessors at three to six acres and would be located at 25- to 35-mile intervals. In the same year contracts were let for the construction of Kansas’ first three SRA sites. Construction of the sites was coordinated with the building and surfacing of the roadways they served, allowing highway and rest areas to open to traffic simultaneously. By 1964 Kansas was operating six pairs of safety rest areas with three other pairs under construction and nearing completion. These sites included picnic tables, shelter houses and sunshades, barbeque grills, toilet facilities with running water where possible, and plantings to blend with the natural terrain. Given available documentation it seems that the earliest of these facilities employed pit type toilets, with flush type not being used until the early 1970s.

The original 1956 Interstate highway legislation provided that SRAs be constructed on the same shared funding basis as the whole of the Interstate system. However, in 1959 the federal government withdrew funding for the construction of SRA buildings and other facilities, providing that federal aid could only be used for the construction of parking areas and
acceleration and deceleration lanes. Funding contributions were not restored until the Highway Beautification Act of 1965. During this six-year period the state of Kansas supplemented construction funds for SRA facilities and maintained a level of construction progress that eluded many other states during this time. The substantial growth of the Kansas SRA program during the early 1960s is somewhat unique when seen in a national context. The state succeeded in providing a progressive number of complete SRA facilities for Interstate travelers.

The safety rest area sites constructed in Kansas during the 1960s and 1970s included toilet buildings and picnic shelters that were designed in both modern and regionalist manners, reflecting typical midwestern SRA design trends. The most distinctive modern picnic shelter design is a quad-foil concrete structure, a broad concrete umbrella form perched on a central support. It was designed in 1960 by a Wichita structural engineer and was also used throughout the state park system. This design was also used extensively in the state of Missouri as that state’s prototype shelter design. Many of these structures can still be found in SRAs in both states.

Kansas’ modern toilet building was a low rising, horizontally oriented brick structure adorned with decorative concrete screen block. A design strikingly similar constructed with concrete block rather than brick, was also used in Missouri in conjunction with the quad-foil shelter design.

Kansas' early regional designs, as seen in shelters, reflected a traditionalist aesthetic, heavy timber structures with rough-sawn shingle roofs. Regional toilet building designs emerged in the late 1960s and continued into the early 1970s. The facilities on I-70 at the Goodland site were completed in 1970. This was the final pair of SRAs to be constructed on I-70 in Kansas under the state’s original plan and were the first of a new series of architectural designs to reflect a regional sensibility. The new regional design schemes also incorporated the older traditional shelters, in many cases reapplying traditional style shingles that had been replaced with contemporary asphalt. In 1972 the newest of these facilities was said to reflect a “modified contemporary ranch farm house.” The state was actively updating its earliest facilities by the early 1970s. Among the designs planned was one that would reflect the character of the historic army barracks at Fort Larned.

The history of the Kansas safety rest area program mirrors the growth of the state’s transportation infrastructure. Its geographical location in the heart of the country meant that hundreds of Americans would travel its Interstate highways, those that stopped at Kansas’ safety rest areas would continue their journeys with a greater appreciation for the character of the state and a deeper connection to the geography they traveled.

Joanna Dowling is a research historian in Chicago specializing in safety rest areas.

Find out more: restareahistory.org
National Register Nominations

At its regular quarterly meeting held at the Kansas Historical Society in Topeka, the Historic Sites Board of Review voted to list two properties in the Register of Historic Kansas Places, the state register, and to forward 19 nominations to the office of the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places in Washington, D.C., to be evaluated by professional staff. If they concur with the board’s findings, the properties will be included in the National Register. The board also approved the relocation of a National Register-listed bridge.

The following properties were nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

Northeast Junior High School – 400 Troup Avenue, Kansas City, Wyandotte County
The Northeast Junior High School is a four-story masonry structure constructed in 1923 as the first intermediate school to serve Kansas City’s African American population. It would be the city’s only junior high school specifically built to serve local African Americans. Rose and Peterson Architects designed the building, which had the same floor plan as Northwest Junior High, built in 1922 to serve the area’s white students. These twin schools were indicative of Kansas City’s citywide educational segregation that extended from first grade through junior college – the only example in the state and made possible by legislation unique to the city. The Progressive-era building is four stories and features a commercial style with Beaux Arts stylistic influences. The property is nominated for its educational history and architectural significance.
The following seven properties are being nominated as part of the Historic Agriculture – Related Resources of Kansas multiple property nomination.

**Persons Barn & Granary - 2103 Highway 18 (Zeandale Road), Manhattan vicinity, Riley County**
The Persons Farm, known today as the Lazy T Ranch, is nestled in the Flint Hills of the Kansas River valley in southeast Riley County. Lifelong farmer Enoch Persons obtained the property in the late 1850s, and his family farmed and improved the land for the next five generations. The property includes a grouping of related farm buildings that illustrates the evolution of the farmstead over nearly a half century. The features include a gable-roof barn made of native limestone and board-and-batten siding that was likely built in the 1860s, a wood-frame granary, with multiple interior grain bins, a corral partially enclosed with six-feet tall limestone walls that date to 1939, and a 1919 clay tile silo with a concrete foundation.

**Teske Farmstead – 20795 Major Jenkins road, Onaga vicinity, Pottawatomie County**
The Teske Farmstead is located in northeast Pottawatomie County near Onaga and includes a stone farmhouse, wood-frame barn, stone springhouse, a wood-frame chicken house, and a windmill. German immigrant Ferdinand Teske homesteaded the land in 1869 and lived there until his death in 1913. The farmhouse and springhouse are the oldest remaining buildings on the property and date to about 1870. The current barn replaced an earlier one that was destroyed by a tornado in 1907.

**Eliason Barn – 147 Highway 4, Gypsum vicinity, Dickinson County**
Enoch and Helen Eliason purchased this Dickinson County farmstead in the 1890s and built the Midwest Prairie-style barn in 1915, which was struck by lightning and rebuilt in 1917. The barn is rectangular in form with a tall gambrel roof and original shed bays on each side that create a wide, sweeping roof form characteristic of the style. The gabled hay hood features doors that slide down the exterior along the slope of the roof. They operate on a pulley system with two original concrete weights on the barn’s interior that are stamped “1915.” The interior reflects its original multiple uses of storing hay and housing livestock.

**Thornburg Barn – County Road A 1/2 mile west of D Road, Utica vicinity, Ness County**
Located northwest of Utica in Ness County, the 1929 Thornburg Barn is distinguished not only by its roof form but also by the techniques used in its construction. The barn was built from a Sears, Roebuck and Company mail-order kit upon a hand-formed concrete block foundation. The blocks have a rusticated stone face and were created using a block machine that has remained on site. A reprint of the 1919 Sears, Roebuck and Company's *Book of Barns* includes...
models similar to the Thornburg Barn, namely the “Country Gentleman Modern Barn” that shows a rusticated concrete block foundation that may have influenced the Thornburg’s choice of foundation. The catalog even provided the recipe for concrete foundations and floors. Wallie O. Thornburg built the barn on the farm he had purchased in 1898, which is now owned by his grandson.

Shafer Barn - 1/2 mile north of CR 80E & 50S, Hoxie vicinity, Sheridan County
The Shafer Barn is nestled in the Solomon River valley in east-central Sheridan County, south of Tasco. The barn was constructed in 1920 and retains its original form as a two-and-one-half story frame building with a poured concrete foundation and steep gambrel roof. With its distinguishing hay hood and hay door, this barn was designed with a center aisle to accommodate both horses and dairy cattle. A unique aspect of the barn is that it appears to have been designed to accommodate barn dances. The original design included a ladies’ toilet and smoking room on the first floor and a raised platform or stage in the haymow.

Brown Barn – 5879 CR4300, Independence vicinity, Montgomery County
Located approximately 10 miles north of Independence in Montgomery County, the Brown Barn is part of a farmstead that dates to 1880. The two-and-one-half story sandstone and wood barn was built in 1885 and is nestled into a bluff out of which the stone for the barn was quarried. The barn is an example of the Bank Barn property type, which is characterized by its on-grade access to two levels, either through the use of a natural or soil bank or by a constructed ramp. The barn is named after farmer and property owner James B. Brown who financed the construction of the building.

Shimanek Barn – 1806 220 road, Munden, Republic County
The Shimanek Barn is located a mile south of Munden in Republic County. Farmer Wesley Shimanek built the barn around 1900 to house horses, hay, and a wagon. The barn was once a part of a larger working farm, but most of the farmstead buildings were destroyed by a tornado in 2004. The wood-frame barn features a two-story gable section with a one-and-one-half story shed bay on the west that appears to be original. The plan configuration is oriented to the broad side of the barn with a center aisle and horse stalls on each side. The barn does not feature the more common gable-end haymow, but rather a broad-side haymow.
St. Joseph’s Church and Parochial School – 210 & 217 West 13th Street, Hays, Ellis County
The St. Joseph’s Catholic Parish traces its roots to the mid-1870s when German Catholics arrived in Ellis County. The current church was built in 1904 and designed by Topeka architect Joseph Marshall, who earned a reputation for designing religious, educational, and institutional buildings. He served as assistant state architect between 1897 and 1898. The two-and-one-half story church features a gabled nave defined by a tiered tower that rises from the center of the front elevation and corner buttresses with massive spires. Round-arch openings, typical of the Romanesque Revival style, frame stained-glass windows with ornate tracery. The nomination also includes the Romanesque Revival parochial school erected in 1907. The church and school are nominated for their architectural significance.

Ranson Hotel – 4918 East Main, Medora, Reno County
In October 1905 William and Mary Ranson filed a plat for Medora Junction, a new town to be located west of the junction of two rail lines in northeast Reno County. They actively developed the new town, building its first hotel and grocery store. The Ransons placed their hotel at the prime junction of Main Street and the Rock Island rail line, across the street from the depot. The later expansion of K-61 was a mixed blessing for Medora Junction. Although it provided important highway access, it required the demolition of an entire block of Medora. This left the Ranson Hotel as the only of the original Medora Junction buildings to remain. This building was previously listed in the Register of Historic Kansas Places and is nominated to the National Register for its associations with local settlement patterns and transportation history.

Farmers State Bank – 101 South Main, Lindsborg, McPherson County
Having survived three late 19th and early 20th century financial panics, the Farmers State Bank is Lindsborg’s longest operating bank. Organized in 1886, the bank’s early stockholders represented a “Who’s Who” of Lindsborg pioneers. Most retained their association with the bank for decades. The bank quickly outgrew its small one-story frame building and built this brick Italianate-style commercial block at the southeast corner of Lincoln and Main in 1887. In 1923 the bank entered a new era in its history under the leadership of Ebba Fornberg. Fornberg joined the staff of the bank in 1906, when she was hired as bookkeeper. When J. T. S. Reed resigned in 1923, she took the reigns, becoming “one of the few women of Kansas to hold the position of managing officer of a bank …” The bank operated out of this building for 68 years until it was sold to the city of Lindsborg in 1955. The building is nominated for its association with local commerce and agriculture in the Swedish American community of Lindsborg.

Left to right, St. Joseph’s Church, Hays; Ranson Hotel, Medora; below, Farmers State Bank, Lindsborg.
Elizabeth McLean Residence - 2359 North McLean, Wichita, Sedgwick County

Built in 1956, the Elizabeth McLean Residence is situated on 1.3 acres in the Benjamin Hills Estates, which was once part of a farm purchased by Benjamin F. McLean in 1908. In 1953 the city incorporated part of the original McLean farmstead into the city limits. Benjamin's daughter-in-law Elizabeth served as executor of his estate and elected to plat the area and sell the lots for development. Elizabeth commissioned architect Glenn E. Benedick to design her split-level Ranch house. She worked closely with Benedick to add her personal touches to the final design of the property including the selection of exterior and interior materials and the fleur-de-lis sunken garden. The home's exterior is faced with Etowah pink marble quarried from the Georgia Marble Company in Tate, Georgia. The property is nominated for its significance as an architect-designed, split-level Ranch house.

St. John AME Church – 701 SW Topeka Boulevard, Topeka, Shawnee County

St. John African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church is located in downtown Topeka within sight of the Kansas State Capitol. The congregation traces its roots in Topeka to 1868, when African Americans and those who had escaped slavery were migrating to Kansas after the Civil War. In 1877 Pastor John M. Wilkerson, the Missouri Conference's presiding elder at the time, became the church's first minister. Wilkerson chartered the 11-year-old organization as St. John African Methodist Episcopal Church, which became the first AME church in Topeka. The thriving congregation purchased the land at Seventh and Topeka in 1882. The existing stone church was constructed over a period of years from 1908 to 1926 and is significant for its association with Topeka's African American history. Throughout the congregation’s 139-year history, various activities have extended St. John AME Church beyond the religious realm and into the political, civic, charitable, and business spheres. As a result, church leaders and congregants have played a major role in the activities of Topeka’s black community – including the landmark Supreme Court case, Brown v. Board of Education – since 1868. This building was previously listed in the Register of Historic Kansas Places.

Seward Graham House – 115 Miami Street, Hiawatha, Brown County

Hiawatha merchant Seward Graham built this transitional Queen Anne-style residence between 1895 and 1900. Graham operated a successful clothing business in Hiawatha with his brother Dilbert. Their former place of business is now part of the Hiawatha Courthouse Square Historic District. The two-story house is located seven blocks east of downtown and features an asymmetrical form with a dominant front-facing gable with decorative wood shingles and clapboard siding, a one-story porch with classical columns, a second-story covered balcony, bay windows, and original double-hung wood windows. With elements of both the Free Classic and Eastlake styles, this house is nominated for its architectural significance.
Lion Block – 216 West Main, Ness City, Ness County
Built in 1887, the Lion Block is a two-story Victorian-era commercial block in downtown Ness City across the street from the Ness County Courthouse. Area stonemason Henry Tilley contributed his artistic talents to the construction of the building, which is known for its highly decorative and unique stone motifs and carved stone lion that sits atop the parapet wall. The building's first floor commercial spaces have been home to many businesses including a late 19th-century photographic and art studio operated by Stephen A. Shepard. An IOOF lodge met on the second floor for much of the 20th century. The Lion Block is nominated for its architectural significance as a highly decorative and unique Italianate-style commercial building.

Judge James Hanway House – Lane vicinity, Franklin County
This small limestone residence located one-half mile south of Lane in Franklin County is nominated for its association with early abolitionist leader Judge James Hanway. Upon his arrival in Kansas Territory in 1856, he joined the struggle to make the territory a free state and became a member of the Pottawatomie Rifles, an armed abolitionist militia led by John Brown, Jr. Hanway also served as the first superintendent of public instruction in Franklin County, as a member of the Wyandotte Constitutional Convention, and as a member of both the state senate and house of representatives. Built around 1858, Hanway's stone house features a front-facing gable with simple architectural detailing. A limestone smokehouse is also included in the nomination.

First Congregational Church – 700 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Riley County
Manhattan's First Congregational Church is located west of downtown in a mixed commercial and residential area. Although the church was originally constructed in 1859 as a simple, gable-roof rectangular block, it has grown considerably since then. There are three additions dating to 1879, 1904, and 1989. The Gothic Revival church is constructed of limestone and includes pointed arch windows, stained glass, and typical Gothic Revival window tracery. The congregation formed in 1856 with ties to the American Home Missionary Society and the Manhattan Town Company, both integral to the founding and development of the area. The building is nominated for its associations with early settlement and its architecture.
Charles K. Beckett House – 210 West Main Street, Sterling, Rice County

Early town booster and banker Charles Beckett built this Italianate-style house near Sterling’s downtown in 1884. Although he owned the home for only a short time, it was featured as “the residence of C.K. Beckett” in a community promotional guide published by a private land and investment company in 1885. Subsequent owner Henry Swatz moved the house 100 feet to the west around 1912 and divided the property into eight smaller lots to make room for additional residential development. The two-story, wood-frame Italianate house features the characteristic low-pitch mansard roof, decorative brackets, and wood windows. The house is nominated for its architectural significance.

S. D. Robinett Building – 148 South Main, Greensburg, Kiowa County

The S. D. Robinett Building is an early 20th century commercial building located on Main Street in downtown Greensburg. It stands as the business district’s lone survivor of the devastating May 2007 tornado. This two-story brick building with concrete trim was built in 1915 on the site of the former courthouse that had been destroyed by fire. It has been home to many businesses including a bank, clothing store, jewelry store, and offices. The second story has been used as both an office and a residence. The Robinett Building is nominated for its association with the early growth and commercial development of Greensburg.

Relocation Request

Sand Creek Truss Leg Bedstead Bridge – Road Y, 1/2 mile west of intersection with Route 283, Lenora vicinity, Norton County

The Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review approved Norton County’s request to relocate the National Register-listed Sand Creek Truss Leg Bedstead Bridge. The county’s proposal calls for the bridge to be moved from its original location north of Lenora and situated over Elk Creek in Lenora’s Larrick Park where it will serve as the centerpiece of a proposed walking trail. Constructed in 1906, it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2003 for its architectural and engineering significance. With National Park Service approval, the bridge will remain listed in the National Register at its new location.
Register of Historic Kansas Places

The Register of Historic Kansas Places is the state's official list of historic properties worthy of preservation. All Kansas properties that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places are also listed in the Register of Historic Kansas Places; however, the state register also recognizes properties that are significant to our state's heritage yet do not meet National Register eligibility standards. Listing in the state register can qualify a property for certain state-funded financial incentives, such as rehabilitation grants and tax credits.

Paola Free Library - 101 East Peoria, Paola, Miami County
The Paola Free Library was designed by Ottawa-based architect George Washburn and completed in 1906. In a community with many Washburn-designed properties, this building's Richardsonian Romanesque style reflects his typical architectural preferences. The masonry building is situated on a prominent corner lot across the street from Paola City Hall. The primary entrance is accentuated by a massive Romanesque round-arch opening with Corinthian columns. Other defining features include a rounded tower with a conical roof, quoining at the building's corners, and original wood windows. The secondary east elevation includes a one-story flat roof addition built in 1985. The building is nominated for its architectural significance.

Paola City Hall - 19 East Peoria, Paola, Miami County
Completed in 1909, the Paola City Hall was designed by Ottawa-based architect George Washburn later in his career. Unlike Washburn’s many Romanesque-style courthouses, this building reflects a more subdued early 20th-century Classical Revival style. Defining features include a brick façade with subtle quoining at the corners, stone accents at the doors and windows, and an octagonal cupola supported by Classical columns. This building was designed to house the city’s governmental offices, police headquarters, and the city’s fire trucks – all of which still operate out of the building. The property is nominated for its association with local government history and its architecture.

Left to right, Paola Free Library and Paola City Hall.
Heritage Trust Fund Grant Workshops

Please remember to mark your calendars for the remaining Heritage Trust Fund Grant and Tax Credit workshops to be held this year. Anyone interested in making application for the Heritage Trust Fund reimbursement grant program is strongly encouraged to attend one of these morning workshop sessions.

Heritage Trust Fund workshops will be held at 10 a.m. and will be followed at 1:30 p.m. by an informational session in the afternoon on the State and Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit programs. Attendees are welcome at either or both sessions. Staff of the Kansas Historical Society, which administers these programs, will present information on program requirements as well as application preparation.

Reservations are not required, but attendees are asked to contact Cindi Vahsholtz at 785-272-8681, ext. 245, or cvahsholtz@kshs.org, in case of inclement weather cancellations and to provide sufficient seating.

October 6, 2008 – Salina
Prescott Meeting Room of the Salina Public Library
301 West Elm Street

November 5, 2008 – Hays
Ellis County Historical Society
100 W. 7th Street

December 9, 2008 – Topeka
Kansas Historical Society Museum Classrooms
6425 SW 6th Avenue

Funding Provided By The
Kansas Heritage Trust Fund

Learn more about funding and benefits
State Historic Preservation Office
785-272-8681, ext. 240

The Nemaha County Jail and Sheriff’s Residence in Seneca received a Heritage Trust Fund grant of $24,000 to complete stabilization and repair work to the front porch.
This portion of the village has been in state of Kansas ownership since 1901 when Elizabeth Johnson bought and presented to the state what then was thought to be the place where, in 1806, Lieutenant Zebulon Pike caused the American flag to be raised for the first time west of the Missouri River. A monument to Pike’s visit was erected in 1906 on the centennial of the event and is still there, even though it is now generally acknowledged that the Hill site, another Pawnee village upstream in Webster County, Nebraska, was the actual village that Pike entered in 1806. The Kansas site is variously known as Pawnee Indian Village, the Kansas Monument site, Pike’s Pawnee site, and by its official state site number, 14RP1. It lies on a high point of the west bluff of the Republican River, just south of where White Rock Creek flows into the river. This is about two miles southwest of Republic, Republic County, in north central Kansas.

Forty years after the last excavation at Pawnee Indian Village, lingering questions about the village, as well as new research questions, prompted more fieldwork and a modern

Exposed structural timbers were left in place until large areas were uncovered, after which they were mapped and photographed before removal.

Kitkahahki Archeology:
A Return to the Pawnee Indian Village Site

By Donna C. Roper, Mary J. Adair, and Jack L. Hofman

Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site preserves about six acres, perhaps half, of an earthlodge village occupied by the Kitkahahki (Republican) band of the Pawnee in the late 18th and possibly the early 19th century.

Early 20th century investigations were small in scale and are poorly documented. Major excavations began in 1949, when Dr. Carlyle S. Smith and students from the University of Kansas excavated two of the estimated 30 earthlodge – or, as the Pawnee refer to them, mudlodge – remains. Some 20 to 22 lodge depressions are on the state-owned portion of the village. From 1965 through 1968, then-State Archeologist Tom Witty of the Kansas Historical Society directed further excavation. Nine lodges, some of them partially disturbed by the county road, were excavated in those years. Pawnee Indian Museum was built over the remains of a large lodge depression in 1967 and has been open to the public since that time, with its floor exposed and all objects, including structural remains, left in place.

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look at the materials from the old excavations. The renewed work began in January 2008 when the Kansas Historical Society awarded a contract for investigations at Pawnee Indian Village to the Archaeological Research Center at the University of Kansas (KU). This contract has two major objectives. One is to inventory and analyze the materials and data recovered during the 1960s excavations. This work will culminate in mid-2009 with a descriptive report of both the 1960s investigations and the 1949 excavation. The other objective is to conduct new excavations at the site, using modern investigation methods that were not available in the 1960s. This objective was implemented in summer 2008 as a cooperative effort by the Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP, a joint project for 33 years of the Kansas Historical Society and the Kansas Anthropological Association[KAA]) and the University of Kansas summer archeological field school. Co-principal investigators for this program of excavation and analysis are Drs. Mary J. Adair, Donna C. Roper, and Jack L. Hofman.

The investigations at Pawnee Indian Village are directed toward several research themes. One of these is chronology. The earliest known documentary reference to the Kitkahahki as a distinct Pawnee band dates to 1775, and the first reference known to place them in the Republican River Valley

### Timeline of the Kitkahahki in the Republican River Valley

- 1777: Cruzat: *La Republica* on Republican River
- 1785: Miro: *Panis Republic* on Republican River
- 1793: Vial at village on Republican River
- 1795: Soulard map shows villages of *Republique* on Republican River
- 1802: *du Lac* map shows village of *Republique* on Republican River
- 1804: Vial at Kitkahahki village on Loup River
- 1805: Lewis and Clark: *Republican* at villages on Loup River
- 1806: Pike at village on Republican River
- 1810: *Sibley: Kitkahahki driven from valley a year or two earlier*
- 1811: Kansa raid Kitkahahki at Republican River village
- 1823: Trade license issued for trade with Kitkahahki on the Republican River
- 1830: Kitkahahki sign Ellsworth treaty while living in villages on Loup River
- 1831: Kansa raid Kitkahahki at Republican River
- 1833: Kitkahahki sign Ellsworth treaty while living in villages on Loup River
was a 1777 account. Other documents from the last three decades of the 1700s and the first three or four decades of the 1800s allow us to trace the general chronology of Kitkahahki occupation in the Republican River valley. They show that the Kitkahahki were in the Republican River valley for much, but not all, of the period from probably the 1770s to about 1831. They also indicate that more than one village was built. Indeed, archaeologists know of three Pawnee, presumably Kitkahahki, villages in the Republican River valley: Pawnee Indian Village; the Bogan site (14GE1) near Milford, Kansas; and the Hill site (25WT1) between Red Cloud and Guide Rock, Nebraska. The dates of occupation for the individual villages must be inferred from their archeological remains; however, it will not be sufficient to obtain only a few dates. Individual lodges likely did not last for more than 10-15 years, meaning that the occupation was one of continual lodge building, maintenance, and rebuilding. By determining dates for individual lodges, archaeologists begin to address the question of when the village was occupied and provide a fine-scale inter-site chronology that can serve as a baseline for studying changes in technology, subsistence, and village population. Thus, several questions must be asked about the chronology: During what period or periods of Kitkahahki occupation in the valley was Pawnee Indian Village occupied? At any given time, was it the only occupied village in the valley? When within the period or periods of occupation were specific lodges built and used?

Subsistence is another of the research themes for these investigations. Ethnographic data indicate that the historic-period Pawnee economy was the classic Plains villager dual economy, featuring maize-centered agriculture for part of the year and horse-mounted communal bison hunting during the winter and summer. Yet the full range of both plant and animal foods used during this period is largely unknown. Existing collections did not result from fine screening or flotation, and what was collected has not been fully identified. Further, understanding subsistence is more than understanding what plants and animals were used; it includes understanding how these resources were procured and processed. Analysis of existing collections should go part way toward a true understanding of subsistence. Also important is applying current recovery technologies, including fine-mesh water screening and flotation, to a renewed excavation.

A third theme defined for this research project is trade. This should be a very interesting and productive theme, necessarily drawing on collections from previous excavations as well as the material recovered during the new fieldwork. The late 18th and early 19th centuries were a very dynamic period in Pawnee history. The first specific references to the Kitkahahki in the 1770s were in the context of trade licenses, so it is apparent that some trade objects were entering the Republican River villages from virtually the beginning of Kitkahahki occupation. Studying the changing quantities and types of trade objects will shed light on the dynamics of this period, although accomplishing this depends on being able to build a fine-scale chronology for the village.

The final research theme, the study of social organization, seeks to understand the relations among the Kitkahahki and other bands of Pawnee and among the Pawnee and other tribes on the Central Plains in the early historic period. Addressing this theme will require comparisons within this site, among Pawnee Indian Village and other Kitkahahki or Pawnee sites, and among these sites and those of other tribes. This is clearly a broader and longer-term research goal.

Preparations for the 2008 KATP field school began prior to the award of the contract to KU. In summer 2007 KS HS engaged David Maki of Archaeo-Physics, LLC, to conduct geophysical surveys of portions of the village. The resulting

Members of the Morgan family of the Kitkahahki band visited the site. Theodore Morgan (not pictured) conducted a blessing ceremony on the first morning of field school.
imagery portrayed known lodges – both unexcavated and previously excavated, identified numerous external storage pits, and detected the remains of previously unknown lodges. Initial plans for the 2008 field project were to concentrate the excavation on one of the previously undetected houses in the south-central part of the state-owned portion of the site. In March 2008 the principal investigators, KSHS staff, and KU graduate students tested this lodge. Results suggested that it would not provide information suitable for addressing the research questions that were to be asked of the new excavation, so attention turned to several nearby already-known, but unexcavated, lodges. After testing three of these, House 13 was selected.

Work on the existing collections, recovered from the 1949 and the 1960s investigations, began in February 2008. Goals of this work were to generate an inventory of the various artifact classes, record their distribution, and complete basic descriptive information that would be useful during the analytical phase of the project. KU students Brendon Asher, Emily Williams, Mark Volmut, Adam Hefling, and John Miller worked with the principal investigators to complete databases for each assemblage. While the contract awarded to KU did not require an inventory or analysis of the 1949 materials, including these materials will result in a comprehensive treatment of the recovered artifacts.

The 2008 field season at Pawnee Indian Village began on May 31. One of the highlights of the summer fieldwork was participation by members of the Pawnee Nation. Theodore Morgan from Pawnee, Oklahoma, assisted by members of his family, conducted a blessing ceremony on the first morning. Several of the Morgans visited again later in the project. Another Pawnee man, Jimmy Horn, was on the site throughout the excavation, learning from it, and contributing his knowledge to interpretation of some of the lodge remains. Accompanying Horn for a portion of the field school were his nephew Shane Horn and Pawnee tribal elder Myron Echo-Hawk. The KATP field school was offered from May 31 to June 15, while the KU field school participated in the excavations from June 3 to 12. A smaller group of KU field school students, along with Drs. Adair and Roper, continued the excavations for another week.

Excavation of historic mudlodge remains cannot be undertaken lightly. Although lodge remains typically are neither deeply buried nor thin, they are horizontally extensive. They may have quite a few features, particularly postholes and pits (in small numbers), and they may yield a substantial quantity of artifacts and organic remains (animal bone, charred construction materials, subsistence plant remains). The lodge itself is an entity that has to be considered in its entirety. Given that it might not be feasible to excavate an entire lodge in just over two weeks, the excavation was concentrated on half of House 13, specifically, two opposing quarters. This enabled sampling both the front and back of the lodge and also each of the sides. The strategy was intended to yield information on the entire lodge without excavating the whole lodge. A side benefit, that nevertheless had to be a consideration in designing the excavation, was that it helped spread people out across the area and gave excavators more working room.

While it was not possible to completely excavate the two...
selected quadrants, the cross sections were completed and excava- 
tions moved partially around the lodge perimeter in the northwest quadrant. Preservation here was good, and large quantities of charred structural timbers were recovered. Large quantities of burned earth also were recovered from throughout the lodge.

Artifact yield was good. The inventory includes Native-made pottery, a small quantity of chipped stone tools and flaking debris, gun parts and lead balls, one metal projectile point, some miscellaneous metal, trade beads, scapula hoes, and some ground stone objects. The yield of subsistence remains was modest. This is not due to poor preservation, but rather to the fact that no trash-filled pits were encountered. Objects were recovered from throughout the lodge, with larger pieces more abundant toward the perimeter. The museum visitor will note that the same is true for the lodge floor preserved in Pawnee Indian Museum. This marked differential likely resulted as objects accumulated under the beds and storage areas that were constructed around the lodge perimeter, and as trafficways around the lodge interior were kept clear of large objects.

Although neither excavation of the entire lodge nor even half of the lodge was completed, much can be learned from the 2008 excavations, coupled with study of the collections from earlier excavations. Chronological problems seem particularly amenable to study at this time. As part of the chronological assessment, Stacey Lengyel of the Illinois State Museum visited the site during the KATP field school and sampled a portion of the burned floor to enable dating the lodge using archaeomagnetism. While the date is being refined, a first reading is consistent with the age known from the documentary record. The House 13 date also appears to be identical to the one for nearby House 3, which was excavated in 1965 and its hearth re-exposed and sampled for archaeomagnetism in 1984, but not for House 21, the hearth of which was exposed and sampled for archaeomagnetism in 1984. These results suggest that, as expected, not all houses in the village were contemporaneous. The more precise dates for these lodges remain under study.

A second approach to chronology will be to date the lodges, both House 13 and the previously excavated lodges, using dendrochronology, or tree-ring dating. Dates obtained in this manner could be quite precise.

Post-field activities began in early July when, at the invitation of the Pawnee Nation, Roper traveled to Pawnee, Oklahoma, to give a presentation about the excavation to the Pawnee Arts association. With fieldwork completed, analysis of collections from both the previous work and the new excavations has begun and will continue into 2009.
Getting the Dirt Out

At the conclusion of the Kansas Archeology Training Program field school at Pawnee Indian Museum, KSHS archeologists hauled back to Topeka 498 bags of excavated house fill for water screening.

To deal with this large amount material, the Kansas Anthropological Association scheduled two events at the Kansas Historical Society. August 9-10 was the KAA Summer Spree, and 32 people contributed 297 hours of labor toward the effort. Some people washed soil through 1/4 and 1/16-inch screens, recovering any small bits of cultural material for later analysis, while other volunteers sorted samples in the lab. Co-principal investigators for the 2008 field project, Jack Hofman, Mary Adair, and Donna Roper, and KSHS archeologists worked alongside the avocationals.

Fifteen anthropology students from the University of Kansas worked in shifts September 4-5 under the direction of Hofman, KU Teaching Assistant Allison Hadley, and State Archeologist Bob Hoard. Despite a small turnout of 12 individuals for the KAA Fall Fling, September 6-7, the job was completed in 134 additional person-hours. Lab workers, supervised by KSHS Lab Archeologist Chris Garst, agreed that the camaraderie among volunteers kept the somewhat tedious task moving right along.

Items recovered in the samples include tiny glass trade beads, seeds, small pottery sherds, slivers of bone, burned earth, and charcoal. The nearly 500 samples will be added to the many hundreds that were processed during the June field school and sent to KU for analysis and reporting by the principal investigators and their student assistants.
Across State Lines

Archeologists employed by state governments rarely have the opportunity to work across state lines, but Project Archaeology, a national heritage education program, has no boundaries. KSHS Public Archeologist Virginia Wulfkuhle and educator Gail Lundeen from Lee’s Summit, Missouri, teamed up July 10-11, 2008, to teach a workshop entitled “Archaeology as Culturally Relevant Science Curricula” in Kansas City, Missouri.

This opportunity came about because of a previous success on the Kansas side of border. In June 2007 Wulfkuhle co-taught a similar workshop, sponsored by the American Honda Foundation, national Project Archaeology, and the Kansas Historical Society at the Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site in Fairway (see Kansas Preservation for July-August 2007, volume 28, number 4). The workshop was designed for teachers of upper elementary African American students and presented the national curriculum Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelter, using the case study of a slave cabin at Thomas Jefferson’s Poplar Forest plantation.

Of the 16 teachers involved in the 2007 workshop, four piloted the materials in their classrooms. This exceeded the numbers in Washington, D.C., and San Diego, California, the other two cities where the workshop was offered. In January 2008 Joelle Clark, a member of the national Project Archaeology curriculum team from the Center for Science Teaching and Learning at Northern Arizona University, traveled to Kansas City to evaluate the effectiveness of the materials in the piloting schools. Lundeen and Wulfkuhle accompanied Dr. Clark to the classrooms, saw segments of the curriculum being taught, and assisted in interviewing teachers and students. The positive results indicated improvement in science literacy among the students.

Therefore, National Director of Project Archaeology Jeanne Moe approached Wulfkuhle and Lundeen, who had participated in the 2007 workshop, about holding another American Honda Foundation-sponsored workshop in the Kansas City area. The two coordinators for Project Archaeology in Kansas and Missouri couldn’t pass up the opportunity to collaborate.

For the July 2008 workshop, the Missouri Department of Conservation made available the Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center in downtown Kansas City.
Missouri. This hands-on conservation education facility was well suited to the workshop's subject matter, as the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery is one of its major interpretive themes. The 21 participants – including four from Kansas – were comprised of 18 teachers, an archeologist, a historic interpreter, and a nature center employee.

Topics covered during the two-day workshop included Teaching an Inquiry-based Archaeology Curriculum – The Project Archaeology Learning Cycle; The Structure of Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelter – The Basics of Understanding by Design; Thinking Like an Archaeologist – Inquiry through the Lens of Archaeology; and the nine Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelter lessons. Many of the workshop participants have significant percentages of African American students in their classes. Substantive and honest discussion helped equip educators to present this topic to their students. The participants were highly enthusiastic and dove right into the activities. Favorite lessons were the “Living Room Site” and the floor plan of the cabin with the artifacts.

Two local speakers were invited to enrich the workshop experience. Archeologist Ann Raab of the Department of Geosciences at the University of Missouri at Kansas City talked about her University of Kansas doctoral research on a culturally sensitive site in the Burned District of western Missouri, “Excavating a 19th Century Farmstead in Bates County, Missouri.” Discovery Center employee Sally Bell reviewed the programs and materials offered by the center.

Many of the teachers expressed their intentions to use Project Archaeology with their students. For example, an art teacher, who sponsors an Archaeology Club at her school, said this would be an excellent way to give her students background knowledge for their studies of ancient art. The historic interpreter, who works with university students as well as school groups on field trips, is planning to take Project Archaeology to the university and incorporate it in history classes.

Comments on Project Archaeology

• “I’m very excited to apply these lessons to my class.”

• “Presenters were knowledgeable, excited about the topic and had activities that were so appropriate for our frameworks and standards.”

• “I love the effectiveness and usefulness of how Enduring Understandings and Essential Questions focus lesson planning and student relevancy.”

• “Thank you for all these activities. This will be easy to implement.”

• “I have never seen or heard information presented like this before, very creative and applicable.”

• “I can’t wait to implement this! The entire workshop was great!”
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
Craig Crosswhite, Ness City, chair
J. Eric Engstrom, Wichita, governor’s designee, vice chair
John W. Hoopes, Lawrence
Nancy Horst, Winfield
Leo Oliva, Stockton
Billie Marie Porter, Neodesha
Daniel Sabatini, Lawrence
David H. Sachs, Manhattan
James E. Sherow, Manhattan
Margaret Wood, Topeka

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Through January 4, 2009
*Forces of Nature*
Exhibit at the Kansas Museum of History, Topeka

**October 1, 2008**
Historic Preservation Fund draft applications due
Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

**October 6, 2008**
Heritage Trust Fund Workshop 10 a.m.
Tax Credit Workshop 1 p.m.
Salina Public Library, Salina

**October 11-12, 2008**
Fall Festival
Shawnee Indian Mission, Fairway

**October 17, 2008**
Haunted History
Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

**October 17-19, 2008**
Smoky Hill Trail Association
Salina Community Theatre, Salina

**October 25, 2008**
Graveside Conversations
Fort Hays, Hays

**October 26, 2008**
Pawnee Star Show
Pawnee Indian Museum, Republic

**November 5, 2008**
Heritage Trust Fund Workshop 10 a.m.
Tax Credit Workshop 1 p.m.
Ellis County Historical Society, Hays

**November 7, 2008**
KSHS, Inc., Annual Meeting
Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

**November 17, 2008**
Historic Preservation Fund Grant applications
Due by 4:30 p.m.
Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

**November 22, 2008**
Historic Sites Board of Review Quarterly Meeting
Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

**November 22, 2008**
Heritage Trust Fund Workshop 10 a.m.
Tax Credit Workshop 1:30 p.m.
Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

**December 9, 2008**
Heritage Trust Fund Workshop 10 a.m.
Tax Credit Workshop 1:30 p.m.
Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

**February 21-22, 2009**
KAA Certification Seminar
Bethany College, Lindsborg

**March 6 & 7, 2009**
Flint Hills Conference
Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

**April 18, 2009**
KAA Annual Meeting
Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

Online at kshs.org/calendar