



Kansas Preservation

Newsletter of the Cultural Resources Division ▪ Kansas State Historical Society



Since its construction in 1956, this unique hyperbolic paraboloid house in Lawrence has drawn mixed reactions. Its nomination was recently approved to the National Register of Historic Places, along with nine other Kansas properties.

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Kansas Archaeology Month

KANSAS PRESERVATION

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New Grants Reviewer Hired

Kim Smith joined the Cultural Resources Division as the grants reviewer in March. Originally from Illinois, Kim earned bachelor's degrees in art and history and a master's degree in interior design from Illinois State University (ISU). In December, she received her second M.A. in historic preservation from the University of Vermont.



Kim Smith

She worked with such organizations as Mackinac State Historic Parks in Michigan and McLean County and Vermilion County historical societies in Illinois. She was also an instructor at ISU. She interned at the Gardner Museum of Architecture and Design in Quincy, Illinois, completing a National Register nomination for the organization.

Kim's primary focus is to review and monitor projects funded by the Heritage Trust Fund (HTF) grant. This includes assisting architects and consultants with compliance with the Secretary of Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation*. She will also improve KSHS online National Register database, including more detailed information and photos for each listed property. Additionally, she will assist in workshops for the HTF grant application process.

Kim has many interests in preservation, including adaptive reuse, community development, and architectural styles from 1870-1950.

She replaces Sarah Martin, who now coordinates the National Register program.

Review & Compliance/CLG Coordinator Selected

Julie Weisgerber began duties in April as the Review & Compliance/Certified Local Government (CLG) coordinator.



Julie Weisgerber

Hailing from southern California, Julie received a bachelor's degree in art from San Diego State University. She worked as a commercial interior designer for nearly two years before pursuing a master's degree in historic preservation from the University of Vermont. While there, she focused on downtown revitalization strategies.

Julie participated in the preservation efforts of the Arto Monaco Historical

Society and the Adirondack Architectural Heritage.

Her duties include reviewing projects for state and federal guideline compliance. She will also coordinate the CLG program. She hopes to build strong relationships with the current CLGs, as well as work with interested local governments to establish new CLGs.

She looks forward to pursuing her interests of American history, preservation law, and community development with KSHS.

She replaces Bob Bettis, who accepted a position in his home state of Missouri.

Making Plans for the Fourth of July?

The Kansas Museum of History in Topeka will be open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on July 4; however, the adjacent Center for Historic Research is closed.

Fort Hays State Historic Site in Hays will be open for a special Independence Day event.

All other state historic sites are closed.

Preservation in the News



This column is an occasional feature summarizing 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.

The city of Greensburg and much of surrounding Kiowa County were destroyed by a large tornado on May 4, 2007. Ten people lost their lives, and many lost all of their possessions when an F5 tornado leveled 90 percent of the town. The Greensburg Well, the world's largest hand-dug well, is the only local property listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The well is still intact; however, the structures that sat atop the well were destroyed. The status of several other documented historic properties, including a church, the school, several downtown buildings, and three Lustron homes, is still unknown.

“Before the storm:
How Greensburg used to be”
The Wichita Eagle, May 13, 2007, at
www.kansas.com



While the Greensburg Well itself was not severely damaged, the buildings atop the well were destroyed. Photo courtesy of The Wichita Eagle/Kansas.com.

A federal judge recently ruled that a decision by City of Atchison officials to halt the demolition of the Administration Building at the Mount Saint Scholastica convent violated the rights of the nuns. This ruling allows the nuns to move forward with plans to demolish the 170,000-square-foot administration building. The nuns plan to replace the building, originally built in 1924, with an outdoor sanctuary.

“Nuns win a round in bid to raze site”
The Kansas City Star, March 16, 2007,
at www.kansascity.com



This postcard shows the Greensburg Well's main building, which was reduced to rubble by the May 4 tornado. Postcard from the Kansas State Historical Society's National Register file.

The City of Topeka is currently working to find new compatible uses for Sumner Elementary School. Sumner Elementary School is a National Historic Landmark, associated with the *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court case. The school remained an active elementary school until 1996 but has not been used since 2002. The most recent proposals are from a real estate redevelopment group and a private preschool.

“Two groups make proposals for Sumner School”
Topeka Capital-Journal, May 12, 2007, at www.cjonline.com

*Compiled by Kristen Lonard
National Register Historian & State Tax Credit Reviewer*



Federal Tax Credit Coordinator Katrina Ringler gave tips for updating kitchens, bathrooms, and HVAC systems.

Historic Dodge City Hosts Preservation Conference

Cowboys aren't the only ones who travel to Dodge City! Community leaders, architects, realtors, preservation professionals, and enthusiasts from throughout the state gathered there May 10-12 for the 2007 State Historic Preservation Conference. The City of Dodge City hosted the three-day event, which focused on technical and innovative ways of preserving cultural landscapes.

The conference featured fifteen sessions and panel discussions on a range of issues, including green design, historic churches, updating HVAC (heating, ventilating, and air conditioning) systems in historic properties, the art of Native Americans, and remnants of the Santa Fe Trail. Preservation-related programs included sessions on rehabilitation of historic places, rehabilitation tax credits, Heritage Trust Fund, Certified Local Government (CLG) training, and the National Register of Historic Places.

On Friday morning, keynote speaker Dr. Eric Clements presented a lively

By Kim Smith, Grants Reviewer



Visitors gathered at Dodge City's historic St. Cornelius Episcopal Church to hear Dr. Jay Price of Wichita State University talk about historic churches.

discussion on the effects of gambling on the American West. An author and associate professor of history at Southeast Missouri State University, Clements addressed how gambling establishments are replacing tourism in once established and historic towns. His publications include the book *After the Boom in Tombstone and Jerome, Arizona: Decline in Western Resource Towns* (University of Nevada Press, 2003). He also edits *The Mining History Journal*, an annual publication of the Mining History Association.

Heather MacIntosh, executive director of Preservation Action, Inc. in Washington, D.C., was the featured speaker at Friday night's conference banquet. She spoke about how preservationists could interact and engage the U.S. Congress. Her insights included tips on advocating preservation issues, talking with or writing to your congressperson, and understanding that the minority party in Congress should be lobbied alongside the majority. She also emphasized the importance of understanding current preservation topics and grassroots efforts.

The Southwest Kansas preserva-

tion panel was headed by Kathleen Holt, Vince Mancini, AIA, Kent Stehlik, and Jim Johnson. Each discussed the importance of architectural preservation, highlighting renovations at Dodge City's Carnegie Arts Center and the Santa Fe Depot. Johnson discussed the importance of storytelling through Dodge City's Trail of Fame walking tour.

The Historic Sites Board of Review met for its quarterly meeting on the final day of the conference. (See page five.)

The conference ended with two special events: a walk on the Trail of Fame through downtown led by retired Deputy Marshall Charles Meade and a trolley tour of area points of interest hosted by Dr. David Clapsaddle.

The Kansas Preservation Alliance, Inc. (KPA), a statewide nonprofit corporation dedicated to supporting the preservation of Kansas' heritage through education and advocacy, hosted its annual awards reception on Thursday, May 10, at Dodge City's Depot Theatre. The Awards for Excellence recognize outstanding preservation efforts and illustrate the diversity of preservation activity in Kansas.

Kansas Preservation Alliance (KPA) Awards

Rehabilitation Awards

The Eisenhower Ridge Apartments, Leavenworth

Old English Court Apartments, Wichita

J. W. Crancer Building, Leavenworth

Preservation Awards

Memorial Hall, Independence

St. Anthony of Padua, Wichita

Reconstruction Award

Union Pacific Depot, Manhattan

Advocacy Awards

Fort Larned Old Guard for the preservation of the site of Indian Village on Pawnee Fork.

Kathleen Fox for her donation of the site of Hard Chief's Village near Topeka to the Archaeological Conservancy.



A parade makes its way through downtown Wellington ca. 1910.

Ten Properties Nominated for National Register Listing

The Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review held its regular quarterly meeting in conjunction with the annual State Historic Preservation Conference in Dodge City on May 12. The board recommended the addition of ten listings to the National Register of Historic Places. These nominations will be forwarded to the National Register office in Washington, D.C., for its review.

Downtown Wellington Historic District Wellington, Sumner County

Wellington was founded in 1871, but the first railroad did not arrive until 1879. During these first eight years, businesses were constructed using locally available materials such as logs. Some busi-

ness owners constructed buildings with lumber obtained from Emporia and, as the railroad extended west, from Wichita. The first permanent masonry buildings were constructed in the years immediately following the arrival of the railroad. Some buildings, like the Arlington Hotel, were built using local brick. Others, like the Marble Block, were constructed of local limestone. Through the years, these permanent buildings replaced the wood fronts and, by the early twentieth century, hard-fired pressed brick replaced soft local brick as the preferred construction material.

The downtown area was affected by several unfortunate events, including a fire that destroyed several buildings in 1881 and a tornado that hit commercial and residential buildings in the heart of the city eleven years later. Although

devastating, these events provided an opportunity for town boosters to rebuild the affected areas in a coordinated fashion, resulting in strings of matching adjacent buildings. As a collection, the buildings in downtown Wellington interpret the history of the community's permanent commercial development, from the construction of the first masonry buildings in the late 1870s to the construction of free-standing office buildings in the 1950s.

C. M. Jackman House Wichita, Sedgwick County

In the early 1920s, Charles M. Jackman, president and manager of the Kansas Milling Company, hired Wichita architect Lorentz Schmidt and contractor George Siedhoff to design and build his College Hill home. Located east of



While the mode of transportation obviously has changed since the historic picture at left was taken, many of the storefronts in the Downtown Wellington Historic District remain.



The C. M. Jackson House in Wichita's College Hill neighborhood is a good example of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture.

downtown, the College Hill area was developing into a neighborhood that was home to prominent area businessmen and their families.

The College Hill area featured homes of popular early twentieth-century architectural styles, which by 1924 included Jackman's Spanish Colonial Revival house at the corner of First Street and Roosevelt Avenue. The U-shaped house

features a stucco exterior with a multi-colored tile roof typical of the style. Interior features are exceptional, including the so-called "Indian Room" specifically designed to display Native American art and artifacts. Schmidt and Siedhoff, who often collaborated on projects, designed and constructed buildings throughout Kansas and surrounding states from the early 1900s to the 1950s.

*Downtown Wellington
Historic District
Wellington, Sumner County*

*C. M. Jackman House
Wichita, Sedgwick County*

*Grace Wilkie House
Wichita, Sedgwick County*

*Power Plant #1
McPherson, McPherson County*

*Deerfield Texaco Service Station
Deerfield, Kearny County*

*Fairfax Hills Historic District
Kansas City, Wyandotte County*

*Double Hyperbolic
Paraboloid House
Lawrence, Douglas County*

*Mahaska Rural High School #3
Mahaska, Washington County*

*Hewins Park Pavilion
Cedar Dale, Chautauqua County*

*Battle of
Punished Woman's Fork Site
Scott County*

**Grace Wilkie House
Wichita, Sedgwick County**

This modest house, also in Wichita's College Hill neighborhood, was home for 40 years to one of Wichita State University's most influential female leaders, Grace Wilkie. Fairmont Congregational College, as the institution was then known, hired Wilkie in 1912 to lead the Home Economics Department. Beyond teaching, she was committed to serving her community through the American Red Cross and various organizations dedicated to women's suffrage and war relief efforts. She took a brief leave of absence after World War I to join the American Committee for Devastated France. Upon her return in 1922, she was promoted to the position of dean of women, which she held until her retirement in 1953. That same year, the college named its new women's residence hall in her honor.

Wilkie had no children of her own, but counted some 9,000 young women among the students she had supervised during her tenure—many of whom attended an annual tea at her home on English Street, which was built in 1927

McPherson Power Plant #1 was designed to withstand vibration and allow in considerable natural light. The brick detailing mimics the window arrangement, enhancing the building's verticality.



by Grover C. Wright. Wilkie lived in this house with her sister Sophronia until her death in 1967.

**Power Plant #1
McPherson, McPherson County**

McPherson was founded in 1872 and rapidly grew with the expansion of the Santa Fe and Union Pacific Railroads into a sophisticated community with industry, business, and entertainment. This growth relied on power. Using coal for fuel, the power plant produced steam power that served the community. The 1887 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of McPherson shows a building “being finished” at the corner of Elizabeth and Chestnut Streets known as the “McPherson Electric Light Company.” Subsequent Sanborn maps illustrate the growth of this plant, which had become known as the “Western Water and Electric Company.” By 1927, the plant had converted to oil as its source of fuel.

That original building experienced growth and transition for many years as needs and technology changed. It was demolished in phases as construction progressed on the existing building during the 1930s and 1940s. The building’s red brick veneer is moderately detailed with an emphasis on vertical-

ity, which is mimicked in the window arrangement. The structure was built to withstand significant vibration, to dissipate heat, and to allow in considerable natural light. Its service as a power plant ceased in 1996.

**Deerfield Texaco Service Station
Deerfield, Kearny County**

Located in the Arkansas River valley along the Santa Fe Trail route and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad line, Deerfield has a rich history associated with transportation. The Service Oil Company, owned by area residents John Campbell and James Doyle, opened the Deerfield Texaco Service Station in 1923. This small Tudor Revival-style station along Old U.S. Highway 50 once catered to motorists traveling between Garden City, Kansas, and Lamar, Colorado. The station opened at a time when petroleum companies were expanding their service to include secondary products such as oil, tires, and mechanical assistance. The station also was a “Texaco Registered Restroom.” By advertising their clean restrooms with a sign out front, registered stations hoped to attract a broader clientele—including women—in order to sell products other than petroleum.

Upon its approval by the National

Register office in Washington, D.C., this will be the first listed property in Kearny County.

**Fairfax Hills Historic District
Kansas City, Wyandotte County**

The Fairfax Hills Historic District, constructed from 1944 to 1945, is a 33-acre landscaped site with 48 buildings adjacent to the Fairfax industrial district in Kansas City. Located along the Missouri River bluffs, the topography of the district slopes down from east to west, giving the development a tiered appearance. Using federal financing incentives, private developers built Fairfax Hills to help alleviate the housing shortage that accompanied the influx of defense workers to Kansas City during World War II. One of two defense-housing projects constructed in Kansas City, Kansas, Fairfax Hills was distinguished by its compliance with Federal Housing Authority (FHA) design standards and by its private (rather than public) ownership. It was also reputed to be the first subdivision in the Kansas City area to adopt the FHA-sanctioned garden apartment housing model.

Landscape architects Hare and Hare applied their considerable skills in subdivision design to the property, creating



As automobile transportation gained popularity, so did service stations. The Deerfield Texaco Service Station—shown here in the late 1930s or early 1940s—promoted its “Texaco Registered Restroom” to attract road-weary travelers between Garden City, Kansas, and Lamar, Colorado.

a layout of roads, buildings, and open spaces that responded to the rolling topography and reflected the precepts of development recommended by the FHA. Architect George Metz adapted a standard apartment unit plan into four distinct multi-family building types. Each building type has a unique façade that reflects a blending of traditional Colonial Revival architectural treatments and the stripped-down Modern Movement design that the FHA preferred for public housing projects during this period. The result is a cohesive district composed of varied components linked by a common vocabulary of design elements and materials. Developers plan to rehabilitate the subdivision using state and federal rehabilitation tax credits.

**Double Hyperbolic Paraboloid House
Lawrence, Douglas County**

This innovative home was designed



The Fairfax Hills Historic District was developed along the Missouri River bluffs as housing for the influx of defense workers to Kansas City during World War II.

in 1956 by Donald L. Dean, then-associate professor of civil engineering at the University of Kansas. Dean worked with architecture students to create a model of the double hyperbolic paraboloid roof, which was displayed on campus during the 1956 KU Engineering Exposition. A hyperbolic paraboloid can be described as





Vacant since 1989, the former Mahaska High School building in Washington County is being renovated for use as residences.

a saddle-shaped surface, with alternating corners ascending and descending. The points, situated low to the ground, form the support bases. Following the model's success, Dean used the design for his new home. At the time of its construction, the house was one of the first structures with a hyperbolic paraboloid-shaped wood roof. Similar buildings had previously been constructed with concrete roofs, but Dean saw this as economically unfeasible during the post-World War II housing boom. The house proved its economical feasibility with a cost of \$18,000 partly furnished, and, according to the February 1957 issue of *Fortune Magazine*, it had as much finished floor space as the conventional \$36,000 house. Dean and his family lived in this house until 1960. It is Dean's only residential design. (A separate feature article begins on page 11 of this issue.)

Mahaska Rural High School #3 Mahaska, Washington County

The Mahaska Rural High School is a member of a quickly dwindling popu-

lation of small town high school buildings constructed during the Progressive Movement that reformed both urban and rural school programs in the state between 1910s and 1930. The school was developed in the town of Mahaska, a small local agricultural trade center on the former Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad. Mahaska is in the extreme northwestern corner of Washington County, only a few miles from the Nebraska state line.

Established in 1887 but incorporated in 1909, Mahaska has always been a modest-sized community and reached the zenith of its growth about 1920 with a population of 300. However, the citizens felt that there was still enough strength and prosperity in their community to justify the expense of the new school. The community overwhelmingly committed to the investment in a public bond issue to fund the development of a high school building that could stand alone from its one other city school property. The bond issue was authorized by public referendum on April 1, 1926, and the new

building was completed and placed in service in January of 1927. The architect for the project is not known, though the building is clearly architect-designed, even as a stock plan developed for use by communities of this size.

Mahaska High School closed in 1974 due to consolidation. The building was used as a library and community center until 1989 but has since been vacant. It is being rehabilitated for residential use.

Hewins Park Pavilion Cedar Vale, Chautauqua County

Generations of Chautauqua County residents have attended outdoor events at Cedar Vale's Hewins Park Pavilion. Named for late nineteenth-century rancher, businessman, and politician Ed Hewins, the 44-acre park on the southern edge of town is also home to the city's swimming pool, rodeo grounds, and ball fields. Hewins first set aside land for a park in 1882, and the city obtained ownership several years later.

The city requested proposals for amphitheater designs in 1912 and select-



Hewins Park Pavilion has been a centerpiece of community activity in Cedar Vale for nearly a century. (Right) Six laminated radial arches anchored by concrete bases support the gabled roof.

ed that of a Winfield architect known only as Mr. Hayland. The construction contract was later awarded to local builder Chester Bradley. Surrounded by large cedar trees, this impressive wood-frame pavilion is open on three sides and features a semi-circular stage at its south end. Six well-built laminated radial arches anchored by concrete bases support the gable roof. Not only is the construction exceptional, but also the building is significant as a local gathering spot for Chautauquas, outdoor concerts, and holiday celebrations.

Battle of Punished Woman's Fork Site Scott County

The Battle of Punished Woman's Fork Site (14SC306) is the location of a confrontation between the U.S. Army and a group of 284 Northern Cheyenne on September 27, 1878. The Northern Cheyenne, under the joint leadership of chiefs Dull Knife and Little Wolf, had left the Darlington Agency in Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma) earlier in September and were attempting to return

to their homes in Montana. A detachment of U.S. Army soldiers under the command of Colonel William H. Lewis, who had orders to capture and return them to Oklahoma, was in close pursuit. The Cheyenne stopped in a narrow tributary of Ladder Creek, known today as Battle Canyon, where they prepared an ambush for the approaching soldiers. After a protracted gun battle during which both sides suffered casualties, the Cheyenne slipped away and continued their flight to the north. The Dull Knife and Little Wolf bands separated after crossing into southern Nebraska. Soldiers continued their pursuit, for several months in some cases, until most Cheyenne were killed or captured. The clash and the ultimate escape by the Cheyenne were pivotal events during the larger Northern Cheyenne Exodus of 1878-1879.

Look for an expanded story about the Battle of Punished Woman's Fork in the July-August issue of *Kansas Preservation*.





“House of Tomorrow” is Truly One of a Kind

It’s a bird! It’s a plane! Wait, it’s a house?!

With its sweeping angles and large glass windows, this unusually designed house has drawn considerable attention since it was built in Lawrence in 1956 by then-associate professor of engineering Dr. Donald Dean. Some called it the first innovation in home building in 50 years; others called it a fantastic departure from the conventional.

Never minding what folks said about his design, Dean believed it to be the “House of Tomorrow” due to its economical construction. The house indeed proved its economical feasibility, costing \$18,000 partially furnished, and, according to the February 1957 issue of *Fortune Magazine*, it had as much finished floor space as a conventional \$36,000 home.

With help from his senior students at the University of Kansas School of Engineering and Architecture, Dean designed and constructed the three-bedroom house south of the KU campus. His inspiration was a 20-x-20-foot hyperbolic paraboloid model that his students constructed on

campus during the 1956 University of Kansas Engineering Exposition. The purpose of the project was “to demonstrate the feasibility of this type of construction, to give students an introduction to full-scale research, and to check qualitatively the adequacy of design methods.” Their research and execution of the plans are evident in the unusual house that Dean and his family called home for four years.

Judging from local newspaper accounts at the time, reaction to the house was somewhat contentious. Shortly after its construction, Dean said, “The most outstanding thing about the controversial house is the roof. We have had so many people commenting on the low corners and the awkward space caused by them that we started judging them by the vehemence of their comments.” He added, “Many people think the house was built only to attract attention, and it isn’t practical. But that idea is far from the truth.”

The house—Dean’s only residential design—exemplifies unique, distinctive, and experimental construction. Although

*By Sarah Martin, National Register Coordinator,
and Tom Harper, Realtor and Nomination Author*



“The most outstanding thing about the controversial house is the roof. We have had so many people commenting on the low corners and the awkward space caused by them that we started judging them by the vehemence of their comments.”

The late Dr. Donald Dean





A look inside the house shows sweeping angles, open spaces, and efficient use of the low walls.

at least one other Kansas example of a hyperbolic paraboloid structure exists (a church in Ulysses), no other homes of this design are documented in the state.

The house was built following World War II, during an era of experimentation in residential construction, materials, and design. According to authors Virginia and Lee McAlester, “Most domestic building ceased between 1941 and 1945 as the United States prepared for and fought World War II. When construction resumed at the war’s end, houses based on historical precedent were largely abandoned in favor of new variations of the modern styles that had only begun to flourish in the pre-war years.” These styles included Minimal Traditional, Ranch, Split-level, and Contemporary.

The McAlesters suggest that there have been “few basic changes in house construction since the development of balloon framing in the mid-19th century and the perfection of masonry veneering in the early 20th century, as a look at any new housing development under construction will confirm. Many attempts have been made to change this by introducing new building techniques.”

The Lawrence house is an example of an attempt to develop a new and economically feasible housing type—much like the prefabricated, porcelain-clad Lustron houses. While the double hyperbolic paraboloid building plan has proven its feasibility over 50 years, it did not become a popular building type.

Hyperbolic paraboloid roofs, however, were not completely new. When Dean began construction of his home, examples existed in Mexico, Europe, and in the



United States. Mexican architect Felix Candela employed this building style on factories, warehouses, markets, and even residences; however, his roof designs were constructed using reinforced lightweight concrete. Dean, with economic feasibility in mind, used a wood lattice roof system to keep labor and material costs down. While Dean succeeded, his design was never widely used.

In its 50-year history, the property has changed hands about a half-dozen times. The owners have made limited changes to the structure, resulting in a well-preserved one-of-a-kind home. Current co-owner Kathleen King-Masten perhaps best summarized the thoughts of all the previous owners: “It’s a work of art and we get to live in it.”

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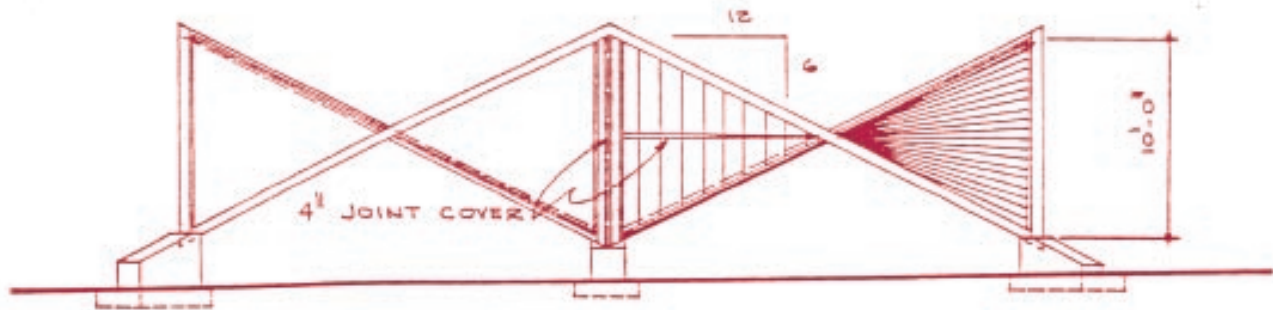
Strode, Willard, and Donald L. Dean. “Design, Construction and Testing of a Plywood Hyperbolic Paraboloid Lattice Structure.” In *The Bulletin of Engineering and Architecture*, 41. Lawrence: University of Kansas Publications, 1958.

While typical buildings have load-bearing walls, the weight of this unique roof is supported by three concrete bases.



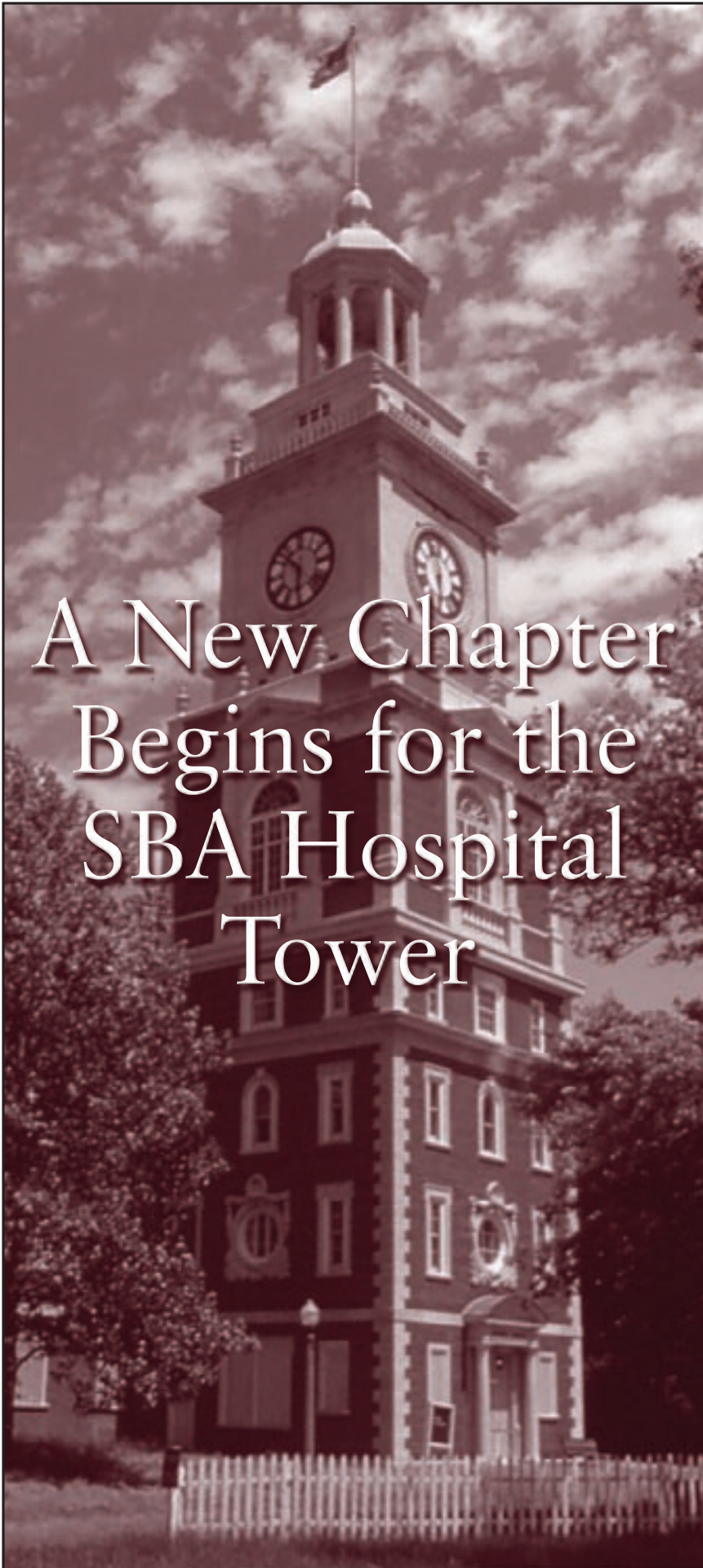
“It’s a work of art and we get to live in it.”

Homeowner Kathleen King-Masten



ELEVATION (NORTH)

FIGURE 1—Sketch from working drawings of structure.



A New Chapter Begins for the SBA Hospital Tower

A few extant historic buildings define Topeka's skyline—the Kansas Statehouse, Cedar Crest, Topeka High School, and the SBA Hospital tower—so when recent events left the future of one of these structures uncertain, Topekans took notice.

Known to locals as the Menninger Tower, the three-story Colonial Revival-style building and its landmark 40-foot clock tower were constructed to house the Security Benefit Association (SBA) Hospital.

The Security Benefit Association had its origins in 1891 in Topeka when eleven men formed a fraternal benefit society known as the Knights and Ladies of Security. In 1919, the expanding society changed its name to the Security Benefit Association and the following year contracted with Chicago architects Schmidt, Garden and Martin to begin long-range site planning and design for a new hospital on Martin's Hill northwest of Topeka. Local architect Walter E. Glover of Topeka supervised the construction of the hospital, the central main block of which was begun in 1925. Its design was inspired by Philadelphia's Independence Hall. Large flanking wings, the clock tower, and an enlarged rear block were added by 1930. The Security Benefit Association became a mutual legal reserve life insurance company on January 1, 1950, and the hospital closed in 1954.

When the Menninger Clinic, which occupied the building and surrounding campus beginning in 1961, left Topeka in 2003, developers took a keen interest in the property, in part because of its prime location in the city's fast-developing northwest corner. However, four years later, the future of the SBA Hospital Building remains unclear. A group of Topeka citizens, who recently organized as the "Tower Coalition," is confident that the significant building can be feasibly redeveloped and enjoyed by future generations.

Seasoned preservationists understand that revitalizing vacant buildings is not easy, and the SBA tower is no exception. By 2005, many Topekans associated the vacant building with Menninger Clinic's decision to leave Topeka after nearly 80 years. That year, a small step toward revitalizing the building—listing it on the National Register of Historic Places—was followed by a series of setbacks.

After the nomination sponsor's effort to redevelop the building failed, 21st Century Clock Tower Properties LLC purchased the vacant

By Christy Davis of Davis Preservation

building in January 2006. The new owners had nearly completed interior renovations when, in July 2006, vandals shattered more than 250 windows and severely damaged the interior with a sledgehammer. Police investigating the vandalism called it the most savage attack on a building that they had ever seen.

The SBA tower entered a new chapter in its history in March 2007, when St. Francis Hospital announced plans to purchase part of the Menninger Campus and develop it as a health park. St. Francis, an affiliate of the Leavenworth-based Sisters of Charity, is set to take ownership of the property in June. Hospital officials

Last year, vandals shattered more than 250 windows and severely damaged the interior with a sledgehammer. Police called it the most savage attack on a building that they had ever seen.

say that they will not evaluate the buildings or structures on campus until they finalize the property transfer. The future of the SBA Tower, in their words, remains uncertain.

The Tower Coalition, comprising concerned citizens and representatives of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Preservation Action, Kansas Preservation Alliance, and Shawnee County Historical Society, has taken steps to make its voice heard. Confident that the hospital's plans for the property and preservation of the Tower need not be mutually exclusive, the group passed a resolution offering its assistance to St. Francis early in the planning stages

of the health park project. The Tower Coalition is confident that the building is a prime candidate for redevelopment.

No preservation project can be successful without community support. The SBA Tower's architectural elegance has captivated the attention of Kansans for generations. Working together, the community can preserve this significant landmark for future generations.

Historic Designation Qualifies SBA Tower for Grants & Tax Credits

Buildings, like the SBA tower, that are listed on the state and national registers qualify for tax incentives and grants. Qualified projects on income-producing

Continued on page 22

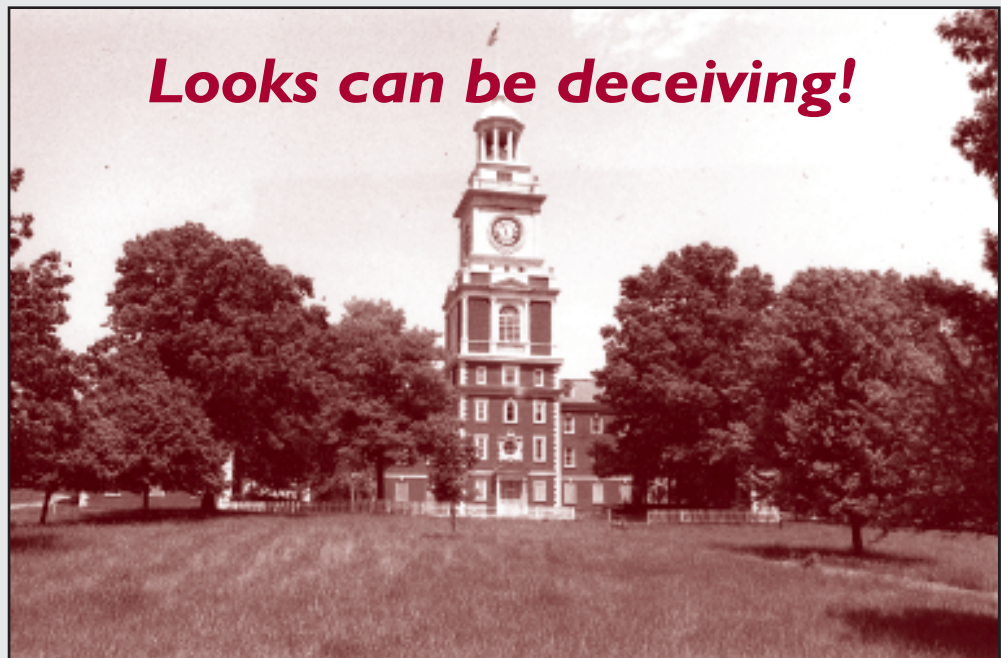
Although SBA chose the popular Colonial Revival style for its hospital building, the structure was executed using the most advanced and durable construction technique: reinforced concrete. Reinforced concrete construction was a successor to the "metal skeleton" construction famously employed in the rebuilding of Chicago after the infamous 1871 fire.

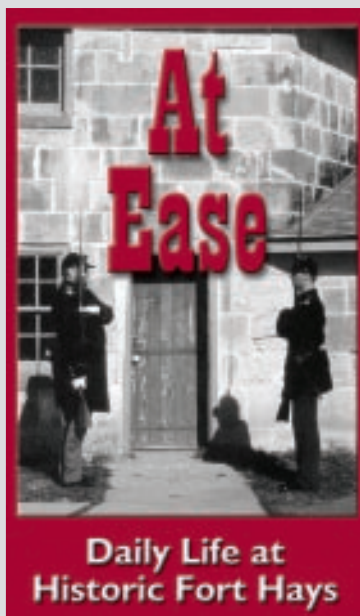
Reinforced concrete construction gained popularity in the early twentieth century, when Progressive-era ideals encouraged

fireproof building techniques. After the 1911 New York Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire, which killed 146 people, Progressive-era reformers advocated for fire-safety building codes. Steel frames alone were not fire resistant, but engineers and architects developed a fireproof skeletal system using steel in tandem with concrete. The result was a revolutionary structural system called ferroconcrete.

Ferroconcrete's smooth finish conformed to the taste of International style architects who preferred smooth stucco or glazed terra cotta to archaic brick. The technique was also useful for the efficient fireproof construction of brick-clad structures. It gave architects the flexibility of conveying the outward appearance of a traditional building without the interior confines of a structural brick building. Because the only necessary interior structural elements were concrete columns, the interior plans could be left open, as with warehouses and parking garages, or could accept an endless array of interior floor plans required for offices, apartment buildings, and hospitals.

In short, the SBA Hospital Building was built like a parking garage.





Memorabilia of a Fort Hays Cavalryman

On the trail west, Fort Hays provided troops to protect not only the settlers, but also the Indians whose territory they crossed. The fort was operational from 1869 to 1889 and seldom had more than 200 soldiers stationed there at one time. In viewing the artifact collection from the fort, it is easy for the mind to recreate a key trooper of that day, the cavalryman.

Putting all these artifacts side by side gives one a feeling of immediacy with that soldier of the frontier. He was a hardy survivor of the rugged trail west, and these treasured relics let him live again. We will let the photographs of these items tell their own story.

This compilation and its accompanying descriptions were prepared by Marshall Clark, a KSHS Archeology Lab volunteer, as part of a series of articles focusing on daily life at historic Fort Hays.



The man himself becomes real when we see the regular military button of the day, featuring the federal eagle. Even more specifically illustrating this point is the button with the "C" signifying cavalry. A saber blade, the ultimate cavalry weapon, is also present in the collection. Yet another item, the brass base for an epaulette, would have held the soldier's rank, either officer or non-commissioned officer status.

The most interesting item in this grouping is an insignia emblem, showing the eagle, arrows, and stars of the army. It is

identifiable as a pin used to hold up the side of a "Jeff Davis" hat. The hat was designed for enlisted men and was also known as a "Kossuth Hat" or a "Hardee Hat." If the left side were up, the hat belonged to an infantryman. If the right side were pinned, it was a cavalryman. Made from black felt, it was lacquered inside to keep it stiff. It was worn with a cord of a color to designate the type of unit: yellow for cavalry, blue for Infantry, and red for artillery. ("Jeff Davis" style hat reproduced with permission from "Military Headgear in the Southwest" by Sidney Brinkerhoff Arizona: The Journal of Arizona History 4(4): figure 3.)



Where there was a cavalryman, there had to be a horse. What better representation than a horseshoe? Of great interest is the picket pin. When out in the field, the spike was driven into the ground and its attached ring provided a perfect hitching place for the mount. Of course, the spur represents the rider's control of the animal.



Archeologists Observe in Conferences



Participants view the Peverly Petroglyph site.

Kansas Archaeology Month was so full of events that archeologists began celebrating during the last week of March to fit it all in.

The Flint Hills Conference met at the Coronado Quivira Museum in Lyons. Museum Director Janel Cook and volunteers hosted a reception Thursday evening, giving conference participants an opportunity to view the new installation of the Kermit Hayes Collection. This extensive collection consists of Great Bend aspect (Protohistoric Wichita Indian) artifacts from Rice County and recently was donated to the museum by the Hayes family.

Friday morning had a series of papers: “Recent Discoveries at Fool Chief’s Village” by KSHS archeologist Randall M. Thies, “Studying Social Organization in the Western Central Plains Tradition Using Ceramics” and “The Chronological Position and Cultural Context of 14RC410” by Donna C. Roper, “Indian Trade on the Southern Plains” by Scott Brosowske, and “Central Plains Obsidian Use—The Results of Recent Source Provenance Studies” by C. Tod Bevitt. The afternoon fieldtrip visited Great Bend aspect sites on the Little Arkansas River, including the Serpent Intaglio site, Peverly Petroglyph site, Kermit Hayes #4 site, Paul Thompson site, and Tobias site.

The Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA) Annual Meeting was held on April 14 in the Potawatomi Baptist Mission of the Kansas History Center in Topeka. The morning business meeting included presentation of Certificates of Appreciation to Mary Conrad, Timothy Weston, Shannon Ryan, Randy Clark, Dan Rowlinson, and Bryan Simmons. A series of talks followed: “Birds of Kansas” by Paul Willis of the Topeka Audubon Society, “What KAA Members Need to Know about Federal Law and Archeology” by Kansas SHPO Archeologist Tim Weston, “Growing Old with KAA” by Sharon Sage of Auburn, and “Preview of the 2007 KATP Field School at Nicodemus” by KSHS Public Archeologist Virginia Wulfkuhle.



President of the Rice County Historical Society Board of Directors JoNelle Hayes and Donna Roper of Manhattan view a small portion of the Kermit Hayes Collection.



Kathy Fox of Topeka (right) accepts the PAK Public Service Award.

By Virginia A. Wulfkuhle

Kansas Archaeology Month and Public Events

Thies' talk, "Hard Chief's Village Twenty Years Later," preceded the presentation of the PAK Public Service Award to Kathy Fox who donated the Hard Chief's Village site to the Archaeological Conservancy. Amy Espinoza-Ar, field representative from the Archaeological Conservancy, brought greetings from the national office.

The final two presentations were "Prologue for Topeka, Recognizing the Contribution of George A. Root" by Jim Marshall and a Native American flute demonstration by Elizabeth Nichols.

Anchoring Kansas Archaeology Month was the Society for American Archaeology meeting in Austin, Texas. Weston joined the fieldtrip to the Gault site, a deeply stratified, multi-component site that represents nearly 11,000 years of occupation in central Texas. Gault site project director Dr. Michael B. Collins also led a tour of the Gault site project lab at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory, where participants viewed a sample of the Clovis-age artifacts recovered from this significant site.

In the Archaeochemistry session, State Archeologist Robert Hoard presented a paper, "Obsidian Source Data from Kansas and Nebraska," co-authored by C. Tod Bevitt and Janice A. McLean.

Representing both the KSHS and the KAA, Wulfkuhle presented "The Kansas Archeology Training Program Field School: An Enduring Partnership." "Avocational and Professional Partnerships: The Power of Cooperation" was the theme of a poster session sponsored by the SAA Council of Affiliated Societies. KAA members Anita Frank of Topeka and Sharon Sage of Auburn designed a poster to fulfill requirements in the KAA Certification Program, and KSHS photographer Craig Cooper assisted in its printing.

Continued on page 22



Collectors from as far away as South Carolina brought in their collections for the annual KSHS Artifact Identification Day. State Archeologist Bob Hoard is shown examining an artifact.



Sabetha Middle School student Leigha Orton (center) and Public Archeologist Virginia Wulfkuhle (right) view an extensive collection of chipped stone artifacts from the Flint Hills region of Kansas, while State Archeologist Bob Hoard (background) examines specimen brought in from the Topeka area.



Volunteers logged nearly 40 hours of work in the KSHS archeology lab.

PAK Takes a New Tack with Kansas Archaeology Month Educational Materials

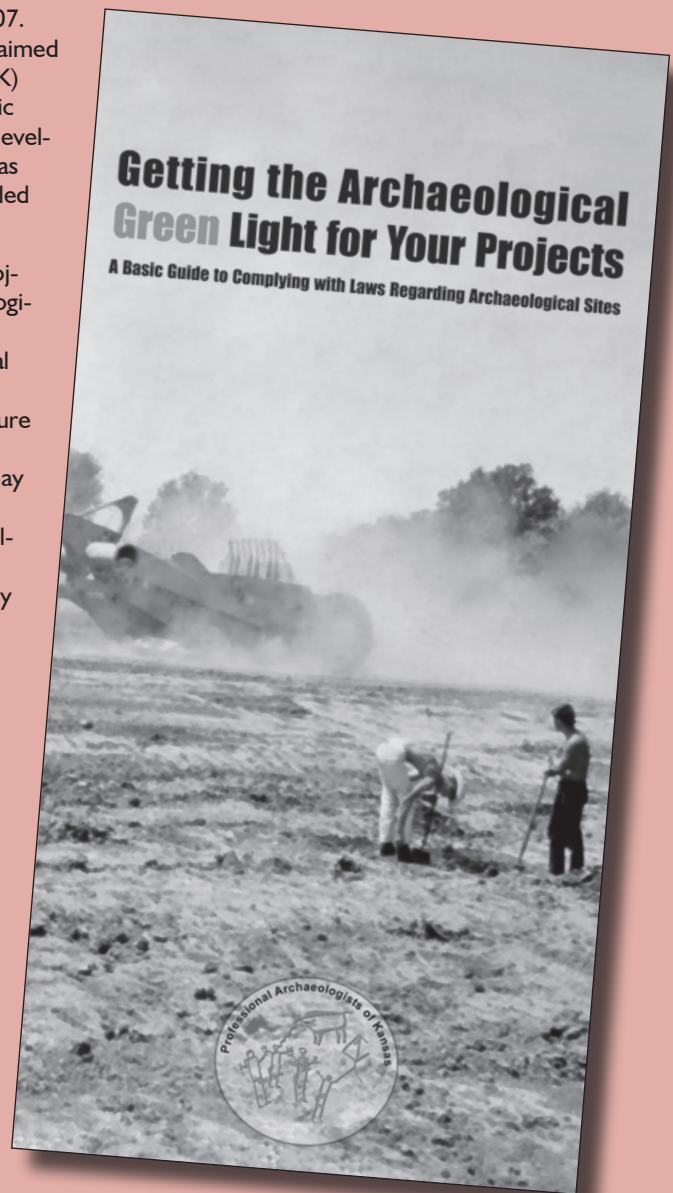
The emphasis of Kansas Archaeology Month changed in 2007. Instead of producing the usual poster and educational materials aimed at schoolchildren, the Professional Archaeologists of Kansas (PAK) produced a brochure directed toward an adult audience of public officials, project designers, engineers, architects, planners, and developers who work in state, county, and city governments, as well as in private companies, that undertake federally permitted or funded land-altering projects.

Titled "Getting the Archaeological Green Light for Your Project, A Basic Guide to Complying with Laws Regarding Archaeological Sites," the brochure provides information about archeology and the federal laws requiring that a proposed project's potential to impact archeological sites is appropriately assessed prior to moving forward (commonly known as Section 106). The brochure outlines the regulations and steps required to work through the Section 106 process successfully for the types of projects that may be affected (e.g., construction of new sewer or water systems, roads and bridges, dams, subsidized housing, park and trail development, cell towers, oil or gas pad sites). It emphasizes the importance of initiating the Section 106 compliance process early in a project.

R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. donated the graphic design services, and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) funded the printing of 5,000 brochures and the initial mailing. Other organizations that made monetary donations to the 2007 Kansas Archaeology Month effort are: Nebraska-Kansas Area Office, Bureau of Reclamation; Kansas Anthropological Association; Emma Balsiger Foundation; Kansas State Historical Society, Inc.; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work, Kansas State University; Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.; Riley County Historical Society; Historic Preservation Associates, LLC; and Kansas City Archaeological Society. Members of the Shawnee Chapter of the Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA) stuffed almost 1,600 envelopes for mailing primarily to certified engineers and land surveyors.

To kick off the distribution of the brochure on April 4, SHPO Archeologist Dr. Timothy Weston, presented a paper, "Avoiding Gridlock when Dealing with Archeological Sites and Federal Laws," at the Kansas Transportation Engineers Conference in Manhattan, which was well attended by an estimated 100 conferees.

To obtain copies, please contact Virginia Wulfkuhle at vwulfkuhle@kshs.org or Donna Roper at droper@ksu.edu.



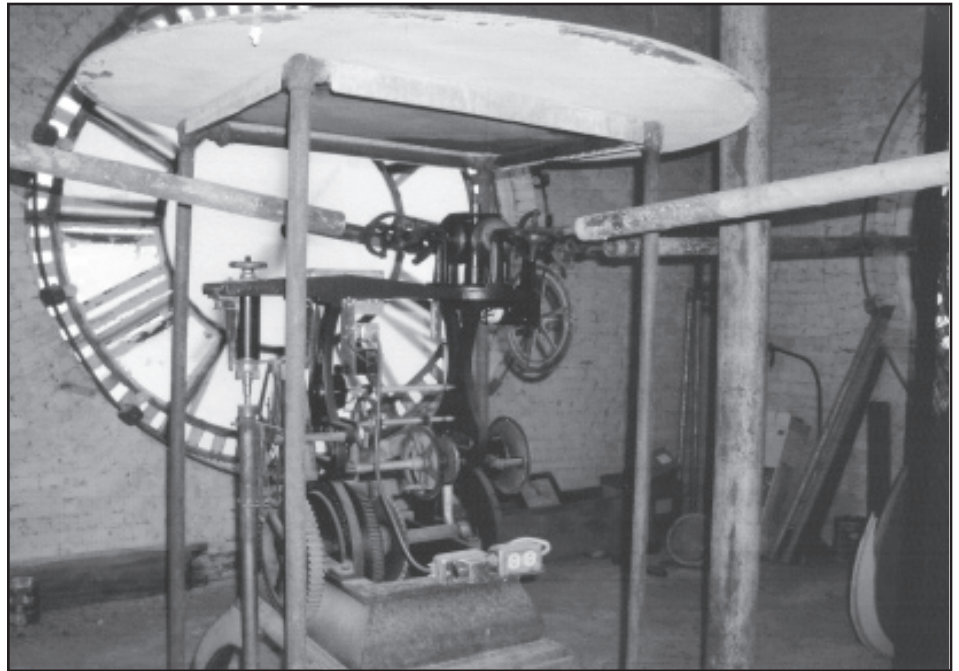
Since 2002, the Professional Archaeologists of Kansas (PAK) has been the lead sponsor of Kansas Archaeology Month, promoting increased public knowledge about the past, appreciation of the science of archeology, and involvement of the public in protecting our cultural heritage. PAK is a private nonprofit 501c(6) organization, composed of professional archeologists conducting research in Kansas and students working toward degrees and careers in archeology. PAK's goal is to encourage and facilitate communication and education among professionals, amateurs, and the general public about the importance and relevance of the prehistoric and historic cultural heritage of Kansas and the need to protect and preserve our archeological resources.

SBA Tower

Continued from page 16

properties are eligible for both state (25 percent) and federal (20 percent) rehabilitation tax credits, income tax credits equal to 45 percent of qualified rehabilitation expenditures. Although nonprofit organizations (those with 501(c)3 status) do not qualify for the federal program, a new state law increases the state tax credit for qualified projects on buildings owned by nonprofits from 25 percent to 30 percent. Because these entities do not pay income tax, the state credits can be transferred (bought and sold).

Listed buildings also qualify for funding through the Heritage Trust Fund Grant Program. This competitive grant program provides grants up to \$90,000 for successful applicants. The program offers generous funding equal to 80 percent of project costs, requiring a match of only 20 percent.



The clock mechanisms have told Topekans the time for more than 70 years.

Tax Credit Percentage Increased for Nonprofits

Late in the spring session, the Kansas legislature passed, and Governor Kathleen Sebelius signed into law, a bill that will benefit many historic resources in the state. Known as Senate substitute for House Bill 2405, the new law revises existing state statute 79-32,221, otherwise known as the state rehabilitation tax credit.

The revised statute maintained the existing state income tax credit equal to 25 percent of qualified rehabilitation costs for certified historic structures in Kansas, but amended that statute to provide a state income tax credit equal

to 30 percent for nonprofit organizations with 501(c)3 status undertaking a qualified rehabilitation project. While nonprofit organizations do not pay state income taxes and generally could not use such tax credits, the statute allows such organizations to transfer or sell their tax credits to other eligible taxpayers. Nonprofits may then use the proceeds from such sales to further their goals.

The new statute also established an income tax credit for taxpayers who donate to a state-owned historic site or other qualified historic site. The credit will be equal to 50 percent of the taxpay-

er's donation if that donation exceeds \$1,000.

A new competitive grant program for qualified partnership historic sites was also created. These contribution tax credit and grant programs will be active upon publication of regulations and appropriation of funding by the state legislature.

For the full text of the bill, please visit www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-bills/index and type "2405" in the search box or contact Katrina Ringler at (785) 272-8681 Ext. 213 or kringler@kshs.org with any questions.

Kansas Archeology Month

Continued from page 20

Wulfkuhle also participated in a full-day Project Archaeology workshop and worked a shift in the Project Archaeology booth in the exhibit hall. She attended an SAA Public Education Committee meeting and represented the Professional Archaeologists of Kansas at the Council of Councils meeting and represented the KAA at the Council of Affiliated Societies meeting.

At home in Kansas, the KSHS observed Kansas Archeology Month with a display in the lobby of the Center for Historical Research during March and April that featured bone tools from the archeology collections. Kansas State University student intern Craig Kitchen prepared the display.

April 21 was the annual KSHS Artifact Identification and Archeology Lab Tour Day. Hoard, Wulfkuhle, and Kansas Department of Transportation archeologist Marsha King examined materials from about 25 collectors who traveled from Atchison, Eskridge,

Lecompton, Topeka, Wakarusa, Wichita, Independence, Missouri, and Rock Hill, South Carolina. Sabetha Middle School student Leigha Orton took advantage of the event to explore archeology as a career. She wrote back to tell the staff, "This has really opened my eyes to what colleges and what degree I want ... The artifacts were the best."

In the KSHS lab, archeologist Chris Garst supervised seven KAA volunteers, who contributed 39.5 hours to cleaning and cataloging artifacts and explaining their activities to visitors.

KSHS archeologists were featured speakers at other institutions as well. The Cherokee Strip Land Rush Museum in Arkansas City sponsors a Kansas Archeology Month lecture series each year. On April 4, Thies presented "Mice and Men: Excavations at the Stigenwalt Site near Big Hill Lake."

Hoard spoke about the earliest potters and farmers of Kansas at the April 23 meeting of the KAA Shawnee Chapter. He was invited to reprise this talk, "Early Ceramic Sites in Western Kansas: A List of Things that We Don't Know," at the Smoky Hill Museum in Salina on May 3.

Happenings in Kansas

Game Faces: Kansans in Sports

Through December 30, 2007

Kansas Museum of History

6425 S.W. Sixth Avenue

Topeka, KS

Community and collegiate sports as well as professional play are covered in this special display on how sports create community among disparate individuals. Among the games covered are baseball, basketball, and football.

2007 Border War Forum

June 28, 2007

6 p.m. Social Hour, 6:30 p.m. Dinner

Homestead Country Club

6510 Mission Road

Prairie Village, Kansas

Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site and the Monnett Battle of Westport Fund present a provocative and engaging look at the 1854-1865 period in Kansas and Missouri history. Attendance requires a paid dinner reservation of \$23 per person to: Betty Ergovich, 23414 West 54th Street, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66226-2709 with checks payable to Monnett Fund. For more information, contact Alisha Cole at (913) 262-0867.

Independence Day

July 4, 2007

The Kansas Museum of History in Topeka will be open regular hours, although the Center for Historic Research will be closed. Fort Hays State Historic Site, Hays, will be open for a special Independence Day event. All other state historic sites are closed.

Sundown Film Festival

Fridays July 13 - August 3, 2007

Kansas Museum of History

Join us Friday nights for this summer movie

series featuring films with a sports theme to coincide with the special exhibit Game Faces: Sports in Kansas.

Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review Quarterly Meeting

August 18, 2007

9 a.m.

Kansas Museum of History classrooms

Annual Community Band Concert and Ice Cream Social

August 19, 2007

6:30 p.m.

Kaw Mission

500 North Mission, Council Grove

Contact Mary Honeyman at (620) 767-5410 or kawmission@kshs.org.

Kaw Councils 2007 - Our Fabulous Flint Hills

August 23, 2007

7 p.m.

Kaw Mission

Council Grove

This program studies the fascinating geology of the Flint Hills.

150th Anniversary Pony Express Festival

August 26, 2007

Hollenberg Pony Express Station

2889 23rd Road, Hanover

Contact Duane Durst at (785) 337-2635 or hollenberg@kshs.org.

Celebrate the history of the Pony Express and pioneer life. Features a reenactment of a Pony Express ride, pioneer living history demonstrations, an 1860s historic

dress group, collector buttons, and a reenactment of the arrival of an Oregon Trail wagon train.

Heritage Trust Fund Workshop *

September 18, 2007

1 p.m.

Kansas Museum of History Classrooms

Heritage Trust Fund Workshop *

September 25, 2007

9:30 a.m.

The Prairie Museum of Art & History

1905 S. Franklin, Colby, KS

www.prairiemuseum.org

Heritage Trust Fund Workshop *

October 9, 2007

9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Ellsworth, KS

Location to be determined.

Heritage Trust Fund Workshop *

November 6, 2007

9:30 a.m.

Finney County Museum

403 S. Fourth Street, Garden City, KS

Heritage Trust Fund Workshop *

December 4, 2007

1 p.m.

Independence Historical Museum

Eighth and Myrtle Streets

www.comgen.com/museum

Heritage Trust Fund Workshop *

January 8, 2008

1 p.m.

Kansas Museum of History Classrooms

* These workshops are designed for those preparing HTF grant applications. Workshop attendance is encourage, but not required. Please call (785) 272-8681 Ext. 245 to register. For more information, visit www.kshs.org.



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