

Spring 2014

Reflections

A publication of the Kansas Historical Society and the Kansas Historical Foundation



REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES.

Spring 2014

VOLUME 8, NUMBER 2

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On the cover: Bob Dole of Russell served in the military, as a Congressman, U.S. Senator, and presidential candidate. Named a Notable Kansan in 2011, he has received numerous honors during his career. Read more on page 8.

Reflections

The Kansas Historical Society comprises five divisions and many different programs that serve the people of Kansas. This issue highlights the Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school.

Kansas Archeology Training Program Field School

The Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school, held each June, offers a unique opportunity for members of the public to work alongside professional and avocational archeologists. Participants assist archeologists in surveying, excavating, and cleaning and cataloging artifacts in a laboratory. They learn related techniques in various courses, which may be taken for college credit. The volunteer program was established in 1974 and continues under the joint sponsorship of the Kansas Historical Society and the Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA).

The 2012 field school was held in northwest Topeka at the site of Fool Chief's Village (14SH305). The village was home to 700 to 800 people, one of three Kansa Indian villages occupied from 1830 to 1844 along the Kansas River.



Archeologists and volunteers excavate the site of Fool Chief's Village.



Volunteers examine and catalog artifacts in the laboratory.

Inhabitants lived in lodges that were 30 to 35 feet in diameter with four to eight large central support posts surrounding a central hearth. Outer walls were covered with bark or hide; an opening in the center of the roof

allowed smoke to escape. The village was abandoned in 1844 when the Kansas River flooded from bluff to bluff and swept away the lodges.

In May 2012 archeologists scraped the site then surveyed to look for artifacts and features. During the scrape 62 features were identified; 20 of the features were 10 meters or larger in diameter, which indicated probable lodges. The excavation initially concentrated on five potential houses and a large area where scattered bone had been found. During the two-week field school, they were able to confirm three houses and an activity area. European trade items were found at the site, including gun flints, glass trade beads, and metal trinkets like bells, which helps to illustrate the village interaction with explorers and traders.

The Fool Chief's Village site was chosen because an impending Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) project adversely affected large portions of the area. KDOT partnered with the Historical Society and KAA to complete the project before construction began in 2013.

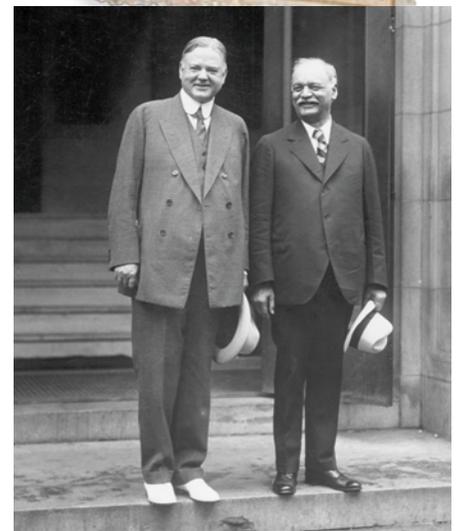
The 2014 KATP field school will be held May 30 through June 14 at the original site of the Samuel and Florella Adair cabin, 1926 Parker Avenue, on the western edge of Osawatomie. The cabin was moved in 1912 to its current location in John Brown Memorial Park as the focus of John Brown Museum State Historic Site. For more information, visit kshs.org/14622.



Left to right, gun flint found at the village site; after approximately 170 years in the ground, the clapper inside moves and the bell rings; glass trade bead is .25 inch in size.

Thank you, America: Flour Sacks from Belgium

One hundred years ago, in the early days of World War I, Germany demanded passage through Belgium to gain access to France. When the small European country refused, Germany invaded, beginning a four-year occupation.



Above, a World War I Belgian relief ship sails in 1915, photo courtesy National Archives; right, Herbert Hoover, with his vice presidential running mate, Charles Curtis of Kansas, in 1928.

Amid the chaos, tens of thousands of Americans in Europe struggled to return home. Herbert Hoover, who later became the nation's 31st president, was a mining engineer living in London. Hoover organized an effort to cover travel expenses for the safe return of American citizens. He soon became engaged in a much larger effort.

Belgium raised only about 25 percent of its own food supply. During the German occupation, that small supply was confiscated. Great Britain responded with a naval blockade to prevent Germany

from accessing supplies. By winter the Belgian people were near starvation.

The American ambassador to Belgium asked Hoover to chair the Commission for Relief in Belgium (CRB). The goal was to obtain food and other needed supplies from abroad and ship them to Belgium. America quickly embraced Hoover's plea.

Former Kansas Governor Walter R. Stubbs answered the call. Kansas, with a strong wheat crop in 1914, became one of the most active states for the CRB. "Kansas, the greatest beneficiary of the war, to Belgium, the greatest sufferer of the war," Stubbs proclaimed. Kansas companies and individuals contributed to the effort. More than 50,000 barrels of flour had been donated by November. When the



Walter R. Stubbs, former governor of Kansas



Men unload sacks of flour from a relief ship's hold. Photo courtesy National Archives.

ship, *Hannah*, set out for Belgium in January, it was filled with donations from the state. "From the aftermast of the ship fluttered the flag of Kansas," wrote the *New York Times*, "while a great streamer that stretched half way around the ship bore the single word 'Kansas.'"

Relief ships made a treacherous crossing of the Atlantic Ocean, under threat from German U-boats. After arriving in the Netherlands, the cargo was unloaded and transported to Belgium. There the flour was prepared into foods and distributed to the people. One of these relief ships was torpedoed after delivering supplies resulting in the death of crew members.

The CRB wanted to keep the cotton flour sacks out of German hands where they could be used in munitions plants. The Belgian people were able to recycle some of the sacks into clothing and household items. Others were over-stitched with colorful silk floss and beautiful designs and returned to their benefactors in the United States.

Kansans received their first embroidered sacks in early 1916. "Beautiful," wrote the *Topeka Daily Capital*, "the wonderful talent of the Belgian women and girls, who are world-famous for their laces and embroidery. It is done on the ordinary sacks in which Kansas millers ship their product, and this makes the work even more remarkable."

Some artists attached cards—like Gabrielle Tournier and Madame Jean Noots. The Nuns of Providence, St. Joseph Orphanage, included the motto, "Dieu bénisse nos Bienfaiteurs" (God blesses our Benefactors). An unsigned sack reads "Merci à l'Amerique" (Thank you, America) decorated with silk ribbon and delicate lace.



The Kansas Belgian Relief Fund donated many of the embroidered sacks to the Kansas Historical Society following their display in Topeka, as a reminder of Kansas' role in one of the largest relief efforts the world has ever seen.



Humphreys Trust Provides Grants for Two Sites

The Lewis Humphreys Charitable Trust, Bank of America, Trustee, has provided two grants that will help with programs of the Kansas Historical Society. A gift of \$20,000 will be used to hire consultants for planning a museum exhibit for the future. These consultants will have expertise in forward-thinking museum design.

Much planning has already been completed and includes the concept of thematic “pods,” to explore how Kansas history has uniquely impacted the nation. This gift will continue the Historical Society’s work toward a new approach to telling the Kansas story.

Humphreys trust also provided a grant of \$30,000 to support the ongoing operations at Red Rocks State Historic Site, home of the William Allen White family in Emporia. This is the second gift from Humphreys trust, which previously awarded \$30,000 in 2009. Both of the grants expand the site’s audience base through schools. Operated in cooperation with the non-profit William Allen White Community Partnership, Inc., the site receives major support from the community.



Established in 2004 to support and promote quality educational, cultural, human services, and health care programming for underserved and disadvantaged populations, the trust is named for Lewis and Elva Humphreys. The couple felt strongly about supporting Kansans. He was born in Osage City; he and Elva operated a ranch in Arvonnia. He died in 2007, she in 2008. The Foundation wishes to thank Humphreys trust for these two generous grants.



Road Trip: "Are We There Yet?"

The family road trip is a tradition that rekindles memories of the past. Trip planning, lists, and packing led to a mystical sense of anticipation. Mothers and fathers carefully selected the perfect destination to satisfy their family's interests. Through deft negotiations, brothers and sisters created itineraries to suit their fancies. Every inch of the family car was packed with clothing, snacks, activities, and items to cover just about any emergency.

When the morning of departure arrived, sleepy children were piled into the car, and the adventure began. The sense of discovery was in the air as new worlds appeared outside the car windows and license

plates from distant states beckoned. The first pangs of hunger never quite hit at the right time, and the search was on to locate a rest stop where the family could be reenergized.

Anxious faces competed to be the first to spot the destination, and sounds of joyous relief filled the car upon arrival. Children rushed to pose in front of the welcome sign, then raced to find a souvenir that would forever be a reminder of the adventure. Sometimes the well-planned itinerary had to be scrapped, but the alternative proved to be far more entertaining. Years later when families gather, their best recollections are often of those special times spent on the road.



Rekindle your own memories and join us for the ultimate family road trip when the Kansas Historical Society and Kansas Historical Foundation present Road Trip 2014, September 19–20, in the culturally rich mining communities of Crawford County. This new program replaces the previous spring meetings. Registration information will be available in July at kshs.org. Look for a detailed itinerary in the summer issue of *Reflections*.



M-44: The “Very Natty” Ike Jacket

While Dwight D. Eisenhower served in Europe during World War II, he began to notice the British battle jacket. Eisenhower spent a great deal of the war in England. He was appointed commanding general of the European Theater in 1942. Months later, after successfully directing invasions of Sicily and Italy, he was appointed to oversee the D-Day invasion.



Prior to World War II, the army field uniform had not changed much from the World War I version. It included the wool shirt, mid-hip-length coat, and wool overcoat. In an effort to offer a more practical version, the Parson's field jacket was adopted in 1941. Named for Major General J. K. Parsons, the M-41 was inspired by civilian

windbreakers. Introduced in 1943, the M-43 was an all-weather field jacket, made to wear over a cropped wool jacket.

Eisenhower felt that the standard issue uniforms were poorly suited for combat. A badly fitting jacket could be restrictive and impact his soldiers' ability to do their jobs.



General Eisenhower, wearing the Ike jacket, addresses the troops prior to the D-Day invasion.

With a nod to the British jacket, he asked his tailor, William Marler, to modify a design to his specifications. He wanted a jacket that could be worn over a shirt, “very short, very comfortable, and very natty looking.”

The M-44 Ike jacket was roomy with a bloused back, action pleats, oversized sleeves, and a waistband. As requested, it could be worn under the M-43 and with layers underneath, without restricting movement, even when firing a raised rifle or pistol.

Officers had the opportunity to tailor the jacket to suit their own preferences. Eisenhower wore several versions with different pockets and waist tabs. The Ike

jacket became standard issue for U.S. troops in November 1944. Intended for battle, it could also be worn as a dress and parade uniform. Olive drab, made of wool serge, it was fully featured with notched lapels that could be raised as a storm collar for colder weather. The staggered cuffs allowed for adjustable wrists, a fly front flap kept buttons from snagging, and epaulets protected shoulder hung equipment. The waistband had adjustable buckles to keep in warmth and accentuate masculine, broad-shouldered lines. Since Eisenhower loved golf, the jacket was even worn on the golf course.

One of Eisenhower's own jackets was loaned to the Kansas Historical Society for a display in 1961 by his son John. Eventually, ownership of the jacket and its matching trousers was transferred. Today, the jacket is exhibited in the main gallery of the Kansas Museum of History.



Photos courtesy Eisenhower Presidential Library & Museum.



VISIT | KANSAS MUSEUM OF HISTORY

A new display coming this summer to the Kansas Museum of History will feature seven prominent Kansans, including Dwight Eisenhower. Life-size, life-like, and dressed in appropriate attire, these figures will provide a personal face to the story of Kansas history. Join us for the unveiling on June 20, which will also include the opening of the new Museum Store. Find more about the anniversary event at kshs.org/18629.

Along with Eisenhower, the figures of Satanta and Carry Nation will be featured.

Bob Dole

Robert Joseph Dole was born in Russell in 1923, to Doran Ray and Bina N. (Talbott) Dole. As a youth, Dole was a Boy Scout, played sports, and worked as a newspaper boy and as a soda jerk at the local drugstore. When coaching legend Forrest “Phog” Allen recruited him to play basketball at the University of Kansas, Dole enrolled in the university’s premedical program in 1941.

Dole left college in 1943 to serve in the army during World War II. As a combat infantry officer in Italy, he was twice wounded in 1945 and hospitalized for 39 months. He was awarded two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star with an Oak Cluster for military service. He attended the University of Arizona from 1948 to 1949 before graduating in 1952 from Washburn University Law School in Topeka. After his admission to the Kansas bar, Dole returned to Russell to practice law.

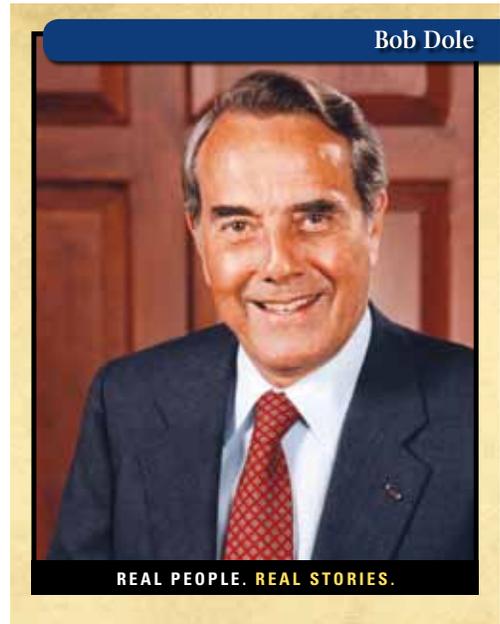
His political career began in 1950 when Dole was elected to the Kansas House of Representatives for a two-year term, followed by an eight-year run as county attorney of Russell County. In 1960 Dole was elected to

the U. S. House of Representatives and was re-elected three times. After eight years in the House, he won election to the U. S. Senate in 1968. He was re-elected three times and served as senate majority and senate minority leader in the 1980s and 1990s. He became known as an advocate for veterans and the disabled.

Dole was the Republican nominee for the vice-presidency in 1976, serving as Gerald Ford’s running mate. On June 11, 1996, he resigned his seat in the Senate after capturing his party’s presidential nomination.

Numerous honors have been bestowed upon Dole, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1997 and

the American Patriot Award in 2004. He was selected as a Notable Kansan and was the first honoree in the Walk of Honor at the Kansas State Capitol in 2011.



Left to right, Dole, back row at far left, lettered three years in high school football, baseball, and track, photo courtesy the Dole family; Dole and Senator Nancy Landon Kassebaum at the celebration of Senator and Mrs. Robert Byrd's 50th wedding anniversary, 1987.

Route 66: America's Main Street in Kansas



When the car was new, Americans quickly discovered they needed highways to travel across the country. Route 66 was created to serve that need and designed as an east-west passage, connecting main streets from urban to rural. The drive along this highway became the quintessential road trip, with gasoline stations, restaurants, shops, and motels serving motorists on the route. Celebrated in song, literature, motion picture, and television, the route passed through the corner of southeast Kansas.



Brush Creek Bridge, north of Baxter Springs

In 1926 the Federal Highway Commission designated 2,448 miles of road from Chicago to Los Angeles as U.S. 66. The route entered Kansas one mile east of Galena at the Missouri border and traversed 13 miles across the southeastern corner of Cherokee County. It passed through the Galena business district, Riverton, Baxter Junction, and Baxter Springs before moving into Oklahoma.

Several properties located along Route 66 in Kansas are in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the *Historic Resources of Route 66 in Kansas* multiple property listing. The red brick Williams' Store was built in Riverton in 1925 and housed a gas station, a restaurant, and a grocery and general merchandise store. The interior has



Williams' Store, Riverton

changed little since it opened and today the store is operated as Eisler Brothers Old Riverton Store. Visitors can eat a sandwich at the deli and shop for groceries, Route 66 memorabilia, and local handicrafts. The Brush Creek Bridge is located on a county road north of Baxter Springs. The reinforced concrete rainbow arch bridge was completed in 1923 as part of a project to link Galena, Riverton, and Baxter Springs with a concrete road. The Baxter Springs Independent Oil and Gas Station was built in 1930. The cottage style architecture mirrored the contemporary national trend in service station design. It is now home to the Kansas Route 66 Visitor Center. Find more at kshs.org/14634.

Delivering Ann Clarke to Freedom

The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 made a federal crime of assisting people to escape slavery, punishable by six months in prison and a \$1,000 fine. Yet thousands of people received help through the Underground Railroad. This system was so secretive that only a few Kansas stories have survived.



Above, the home of William and Caroline Scales, 429 Quincy, where Ann Clarke found refuge; desk that belonged to Ann Clarke's owner.

Ann Clarke was owned by George Clarke of Lecompton, a notorious proslavery man. She was about 40 years old when she escaped to a farm near Topeka, remaining there five or six weeks awaiting safe passage on the Underground Railroad. Before transportation could be arranged, proslavery sympathizers captured and returned her to claim their reward.

After they reached Lecompton that evening, Ann planned her second escape. With the men busy eating and drinking, the women were left to watch her. She saw an opportunity and ran out of the kitchen. She hid amid thick brush in a ravine. Listening as the men came to find her once again, she laid still and quiet until morning.

She spotted a man carrying a book and reasoned that an educated man must be a free-state man. She approached and learned that he was a Doctor Barker. He drove her in a wagon to a safe house, and she was transported to the Topeka home of William and Caroline Scales.

There, she met John Armstrong, an abolitionist who was engaged to Scales' daughter. He later described his experience.

Mrs. Scales kept her hid for a week before Mr. Scales found it out. . . . Mr. Scales, when he built the house, placed a sugar hogshead—an immense barrel which we had shipped things from the east in—down in the cellar. When Ann came, we put some straw, clothes and



Left to right, well by way side at Lecompton in 1867, photographed by Alexander Gardner; ferry at Lecompton in 1867, photographed by Alexander Gardner.

blankets into the hogshead, and had her stay in it. Mrs. S. kept boarders, and during the day, while they were out, Ann used to come up in the kitchen and do a great deal of house work.

While in the Scales' home, Ann was spotted by one of the boarders, Captain Henry, a proslavery man. Mrs. Scales pleaded for Henry to keep the secret, and he complied. After about six weeks, Armstrong had raised \$70 to cover travel costs for his first of several trips on the Underground Railroad. They began the three-week journey in February 1857.

Armstrong used a false bottom in the wagon bed to conceal Clarke. They traveled north to Nebraska City where a colleague was waiting to help them cross the Missouri River by ferry. The crossing was dangerous, with large pieces of ice. They finally reached the east shore and traveled to the home of Dr. Ira D. Blanchard, who lived nearby on the Lane Trail. Blanchard sent Ann on to Chicago, and she sent Armstrong several letters from her new home in freedom.

This rare insight into the Underground Railroad was collected by Zu Adams of the Kansas Historical Society in 1895. She contacted early Kansas settlers requesting information about former slaves who were brought to Kansas Territory and these and other reminiscences became a part of the Historical Society's collections. Find more at kansasmemory/item/3475.



Runaway slave poster; below, illustration of Lecompton, 1861.



Cowboy Boots

Betty Gail Carmean wore these cowboy boots when she rode horses in the 1940s. These Nocona brand boots appear to have been favorites, nearly every inch of them is well worn. They have a scalloped top with decorative stitch pattern and are medium height. Designed with a traditional narrowed toe, they would have been just the right shape for a western saddle stirrup. The angled heel kept the foot from sliding too far into the stirrup.



Her parents, Dale and Ruth Carmean, bought the former Potawatomi mission west of Topeka in 1946. Built in 1847, the mission was operated as a boarding school for children of the Potawatomi and other native people who had been forced west by the federal government in the 1830s.

On these lands, the Carmeans farmed and raised Appaloosas, horses that were entirely spotted or solid colored horses with a spotted blanket. This breed was established by the Nez Percé in the West.

The Carmean family showed their horses at events around the state, competing in riding and jumping classes. Betty rode a saddle custom-made by Heiser Saddlery

Company of Denver, in which her initials had been hand-tooled. She participated in events at the Topeka Roundup Club.

In 1948 the family built the first home in Prospect Hills west of Topeka. They sold the lands to the state of Kansas in 1973. The Kansas Museum of History relocated there from downtown Topeka in 1984, and the remaining Historical Society offices moved there in 1995.

In 2011 a family friend donated Carmean's custom saddle to the Historical Society. The following year, he donated her boots.



Potawatomi Mission when it was a horse barn



West Fest: National Day of the Cowboy

Celebrate cowboys and cowgirls July 26, 2014, at the Kansas Historical Society in Topeka. Then join us that night for Museum After Hours: A Night of Country. Find more at ksks.org/18502.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Online at kshs.org/calendar

Through August 31, 2014

Speaking of Quilts exhibit • Kansas Museum of History, Topeka

May 30 – June 14

Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school • Osawatomie

June 1

Kaw Councils 2014 Series: American Indians of Kansas • Kaw Mission State Historic Site, Council Grove

June 5

Preserve Topeka Workshop Series – Loving Your Stuff: Furniture Edition • Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library

June 7

Mountain Man Rendezvous • Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

June 8, 11 – 14

Art Exhibit: Arthur Short Bull • Kaw Mission State Historic Site, Council Grove

June 8, 15, 22, 29

Sundays on the Porch • Red Rocks State Historic Site, Emporia

June 10

Preserve Topeka Workshop Series – Repair Not Replace: How to Care for Your House and Neighborhood • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

June 13

Sundown Film Festival: *Grease* • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

June 20

Kansas Museum of History 30th anniversary

June 20 – 21

Wahungga Days • Kaw Mission State Historic Site, Council Grove

July 11

Sundown Film Festival: *Apollo 13* • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

July 26

West Fest: National Day of the Cowboy • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

July 26

Museum After Hours: A Night of Country • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

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Sam Brownback, Governor of Kansas

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reflections@kshs.org



Kansas State Historical Society, Inc.
6425 SW 6th Avenue
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Kansas Memory

The Dorrance baseball team, June 1910. From the L. W. (Leslie Winfield) Halbe photo collection. Halbe lived in Dorrance and began taking photographs of the region when he was 15 years old. kansasmemory.org/item/213318/page/37

The Happy Birthday, Kansas! photography contest encourages students across Kansas to follow in the footsteps of L. W. Halbe and discover Kansas through photographs. For more information, visit happybirthdays.org.

