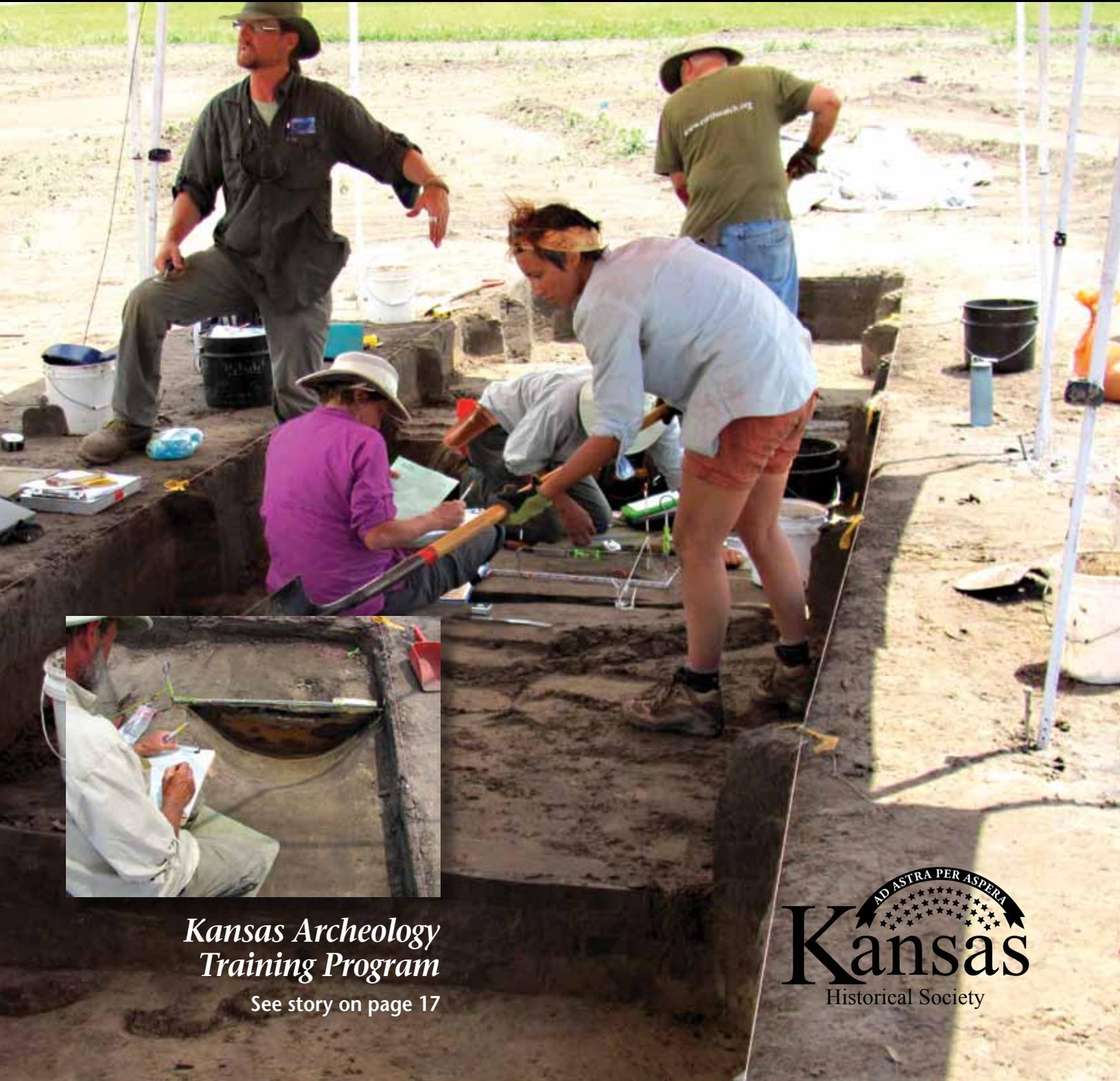


Kansas Preservation

Volume 34, Number 3 • 2012

REAL PLACES. REAL STORIES.



*Kansas Archeology
Training Program*

See story on page 17

AD ASTRA PER ASPERA
Kansas
Historical Society



Newsletter of the Cultural
Resources Division
Kansas Historical Society

Volume 34 Number 3

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KANSAS PRESERVATION

Published quarterly by the Kansas Historical
Society, 6425 SW 6th Avenue,
Topeka KS 66615-1099.

Please send change of address information
to the above address or email
cultural_resources@kshs.org.

Third class postage paid at Topeka, Kansas.

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Partial funding for this publication is provided by
the National Park Service, Department of the
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On the cover: 2012 Kansas Archeology Training
Program at Fool Chief's Villiage. See story on page 17.

Lost

Two notable historic buildings were lost to demolition this summer.

The Kansas State Historic Preservation Office was notified in late August that the Krueger Building in Hays was coming down. After many attempts by property owners to rehabilitate the circa 1878 building, the city condemned the structure. On August 22, 2012, demolition crews took down the Second Empire-style building that served as a community opera house, general store, and social gathering place at various times. The building was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2006.

The Sundstrom Building in Lindsborg was also lost to demolition in August. The building was listed in the Register of Historic Kansas Places in 2009. The city of Lindsborg had been planning rehabilitation of the building for community use, but the State Historic Preservation Office received word on August 24 that the building was being demolished. Photographs and information from the city of Lindsborg's Facebook page indicate that portions of the building were salvaged before the demolition and the intent is to reuse those pieces on a new building at the same location.

These buildings will be scheduled for removal from their respective registers at the November 3, 2012, meeting of the Historic Sites Board of Review.



Top to bottom, Krueger Building, Hays, and Sundstrom Building, Lindsborg.

National Register Nominations

At its regular quarterly meeting held at the Kansas Historical Society in Topeka on Saturday, August 11, the Historic Sites Board of Review voted to list two properties in the Register of Historic Kansas Places and to forward 17 nominations to the office of the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places in Washington, D.C., to be evaluated by its professional staff. If it concurs with the board's findings, the properties will be included in the National Register. Twelve of the National Register nominations are the result of a partnership between the Kansas Historical Society and the National Trails System of the National Park Service to document historic resources along the Santa Fe Trail. In conjunction with these nominations the board approved a revision of the *Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail* Multiple Property Documentation Form, which originally was approved in 1994. This serves as a cover document rather than a nomination to the National Register, with the purpose of establishing a basis of eligibility for related properties. In other action, the board voted against retaining the National Register status of a schoolhouse that is to be relocated, but the board voted in favor of the school remaining in the Register of Historic Kansas Places after it is moved.

by Sarah Martin

National Register Coordinator, Kansas Historical Society

Manweiler-Maupin Chevrolet – 271 S Main Street, Hoisington, Barton County

The Manweiler-Maupin Chevrolet Dealership in downtown Hoisington was constructed in 1944. The building serves as the third location of the Hoisington-based dealership, which was founded in 1928 by J.B. Slade. The business not only survived the Great Depression, but outgrew its original location and relocated in 1932. Slade sold the business to his two sons-in-law, August Manweiler and Wayne Maupin, in 1937. It was during World War II that the two partners decided to build a new facility, and one of the most unique aspects of the building's history is the timing of its construction during the war when auto assembly had come to a halt as production shifted to the war effort. Plans and specifications were provided by Mann and Company of Hutchinson. The building reflects the Streamline Art Moderne style with the curved showroom, rounded corner, use of glass block, and horizontal banding around the building. Today the business continues under the

ownership and operation of Slade's great-grandson Gene Manweiler. It is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as part of the *Roadside Kansas* multiple property nomination for its local significance in the areas of commerce and architecture.



Manweiler-Maupin Chevrolet, Barton County.



Left to right, Daniel & Maude Walters House, Riley County; Charles & Elizabeth Haskell French House, Douglas County; Bethany Brethren Church, Brown County.

Daniel & Maude Walters House – 100 S Delaware Avenue, Riley County

Completed in 1928, most likely from a design by the original owner, architect Daniel Walters, the dwelling reflects the continued popularity of the Craftsman style well into the late 1920s. The house represents the work of a skilled architect who modified a standard Craftsman bungalow by incorporating key features of the Tudor Revival style. As such, the house embodies distinctive characteristics of the property type and period of construction. At the time of its completion, Walters owned and operated Walters Sand Company and it is likely he oversaw the construction of the house. Additionally, three of Walters' brothers owned and operated various construction-related companies in Manhattan—Frank had a plumbing contracting company, Karl ran a lumber business, and B.K. operated a paving business—and it is likely they completed work on the house. The house and associated garage were built at what was then the west edge of the city limits, and illustrate the pattern of expansion of residential construction increasingly distant from downtown that took place in the 1920s as a result of economic and population growth, as well as widespread use of the automobile. It is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as part of the *Late Nineteenth Century and Early Twentieth Century Residential Resources in Manhattan, Kansas* multiple property nomination for its local significance in the areas of community planning and development and architecture.

Charles & Elizabeth Haskell French House – 1300 Haskell Avenue, Lawrence, Douglas County

Charles and Elizabeth Haskell French settled on the outskirts of Lawrence and built this house over many years beginning in 1869. The residence is one of three in a row along present-day Haskell Avenue that once belonged to the well-known Haskell family, which arrived with

the town's earliest settlers from New England in 1854. Elizabeth's brother was architect John Haskell, and he may have played a role in the design and construction of his sister's house. This gable-front-and-wing dwelling reflects the National Folk house type that was popular in the mid- and late-19th century. National Folk houses descend from earlier folk building traditions in eastern and southern parts of the United States, but were constructed with industrially produced lumber, roofing, and nails, which were transported on the railroad network. National Folk houses are further categorized by form and/or floor plan. In addition to the gable-front-and-wing, examples in Lawrence include the I-house, hall-and-parlor, and pyramidal house types. It is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for its local significance in the area of architecture.

Bethany Brethren Church – 121 First Street, Hamlin, Brown County

Hamlin is located nine miles northwest of Hiawatha in Brown County. The development of the community was jumpstarted by the arrival of the St. Joseph and Grand Island Railroad in the early 1870s. Two churches were established—Congregational and Baptist—and they erected places of worship in Hamlin by 1887. The Brethren denomination followed soon after with the construction of its building in about 1895. The Brethren worshippers attended religious services in this building until 1948. They sold the property to the local Baptist congregation in 1951, which still owns and occupies the building. The building reflects a vernacular interpretation of the Gothic Revival style executed in wood materials—also commonly referred to as Carpenter Gothic. This is the only remaining church building in Hamlin, and it is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for its local significance in the area of architecture.

Miller Farmstead – 2913 Highway 4, La Crosse, Rush County

Frank and Emma Seuser Miller established this farmstead east of La Crosse in 1881. Frank was an early settler in the area, arriving from Austria by way of New York, Wisconsin, and Missouri in 1876, just two years after Rush County had been organized. Emma's family arrived in 1877 from Wisconsin. Frank first lived on another homestead in Rush County and later claimed this land as a Timber Claim, and it was on the claim that they built their permanent house and farmstead. It developed into a subsistence farm with livestock and grain being produced. One of the more unique aspects of the Miller Farmstead is the number of buildings and structures that remain—19 in all. With the exception of a windmill, nothing has been torn down or removed in the property's history. The farmstead has remained in the Miller family and is now owned by Frank and Emma's grandson Virgel Miller and his wife, Kathryn. It is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as part of the *Historic Agriculture-Related Resources of Kansas* multiple property nomination for its local significance in the areas of agriculture and settlement.

SANTA FE TRAIL PROJECT

Background

The National Trails System of the National Park Service has partnered with the Kansas Historical Society to document historic resources along the historic Santa Fe, Oregon, and Pony Express trails in the state. These resources include, among other things, trail segments, campsites, and crossings. The documentation and evaluation of these places will help determine potential eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under the *Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail* multiple property documentation form (MPDF), which was originally drafted and approved in 1994 and has been amended by Historical Society staff. Thirty nominations of properties along the Santa Fe Trail are being prepared as part of this project, which is led by Historical Society Survey Coordinator Amanda Loughlin. Twelve nominations have been completed and considered by the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review.

A multiple property documentation form streamlines the method of organizing information collected in historic resource surveys and research for future National Register listing and preservation planning purposes. The form facilitates the evaluation of individual properties by



Miller Farmstead, Rush County.

comparing them with resources that share similar physical characteristics and historical associations. Information common to the group of properties is presented in the historic context, while information specific to each individual building, site, district, structure, or object is placed on an individual nomination form.

Historic Resources of the Santa Fe Trail MPDF (amended)

This multiple property document provides a context for understanding the conditions that were associated with travel along and later reuse of the Santa Fe Trail in the 19th and 20th centuries, as well as a basis for evaluating those physical historic resources that resulted from these activities and associations. The 1,200-mile Santa Fe Trail system, including both the Cimarron and Mountain routes, traverses 36 counties in five states: four in Missouri, 22 in Kansas, one in Oklahoma, four in Colorado, and five in New Mexico. This transportation route between the Missouri River and the Rio Grande was a highway for travel and communication and was the first great Euro-American land trade route. It was the first major road network to be surveyed west of Missouri, and as such, it was a template for future road development. The Santa Fe Trail differed from the Oregon, California, Mormon, and other trails, which served as highways for emigrants bound for new homes in the far West. The bulk of traffic along the Santa Fe Trail, especially prior to 1846, consisted of civilian traders—Hispanic and American—with some military traffic and few emigrants.

The document provides 11 historic contexts involving the Santa Fe Trail and the states through which it passes. These contexts include discussion on international trade on the Mexican road during the years 1821 through 1846; the Mexican-American War; expanding national trade on the trail from 1848 to 1861; the Civil War and the trail;

railroad development; and later reuse of the trail and commemoration efforts.

French Frank's Santa Fe Trail Segment – Marion County

French Frank's Santa Fe Trail Segment is located in Marion County. The property was the location of a ranch established in 1861 by French immigrants Claude Francis (French Frank) Laloge and Peter Martin. Laloge and Martin most likely chose their location because of its proximity to other French-speaking settlers. The known list of provisions Laloge purchased and his previous experience as a cook at a station along the trail support the idea that French Frank's Ranch offered meals and small provisions to trail travelers. The ranch likely ceased operation in 1866 when trail traffic shifted away from this area of Marion County. Today, there are at least six visible swales that follow a northeast-southwest route that connected the Cottonwood Creek Crossing and Little Arkansas River Crossing along the main route of the Santa Fe Trail. In addition to the swales, the nominated property includes the "Cottonwood Holes"—a natural amenity noted in trail-era accounts, the site of a former trail-period ranch, and a 1907 commemorative marker erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). It is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for its significance in the areas of transportation, commerce, and social history, and it has the potential to yield additional important information related to trail ranches.

Boyd's Ranch Site & the Pawnee Fork Crossing (Dry Route) – Pawnee County

Both the Pawnee Fork Crossing and Boyd's Ranch were located along the 1859 branch of the Dry Route of the Santa Fe Trail. The Dry Route is named as such because it was a route along the trail that provided few stops along the way for water. The crossing was used by travelers headed to Fort Larned and by mail wagons and stagecoaches that required the shorter route. The popularity of this crossing and its location near Fort Larned, which was established in 1859, eventually led to the establishment of a road ranch in 1865. At his ranch, A.H. Boyd provided provisions to hunters in the area and built a wooden bridge at the crossing that he turned into a toll bridge. This site was marked by the DAR in 1930. It is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for its significance in the areas of transportation, commerce, and social history, and it has the potential to yield additional important information related to trail ranches and crossings.

Coon Creek Crossing & Fort Larned Military Road Segment – Pawnee County

The Fort Larned Military Road meets the Wet Route of the Santa Fe Trail near this crossing of Coon Creek in Pawnee County. The Wet Route, which followed the Arkansas River through this area, was actively used by trail travelers from 1821 to circa 1868. The military road was in use during the years 1859 to circa 1867 and was cut to link Fort Larned to the Wet Route, allowing soldiers to aid and protect travelers along the trail. The nominated site consists of a narrow piece of property adjacent to U.S. 56 at its crossing over Coon Creek with trail-era resources that include distinct cutdowns along the creek's bank, a trail-related dugout, and two sections of trail swales. It is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for its significance in the areas of transportation, commerce, and military, and it has the potential to yield additional important information about trail crossings and early military activities in central Kansas.

Sawlog Creek Crossing on the Fort Hays-Fort Dodge Military Road – Ford County

The Sawlog Creek Crossing on the Fort Hays-Fort Dodge Road is located at the northern edge of Ford County. The nominated property consists of a nearly unbroken three-mile stretch of intact swales along with a prominent crossing of Sawlog Creek. Though the Fort Hays-Fort Dodge Road was not located along the main route of the Santa Fe Trail, it was closely related and is a good example of a secondary route of the trail. It connected two forts that were designed to aid travelers with protection and supplies. During the post-Civil War years the forts focused heavily



Sawlog Creek Crossing, Ford County. Photo courtesy Michael Taylor, National Park Service.

on the protection of freighters, travelers, and railroad construction crews using the military road. It is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for its significance in the areas of transportation, commerce, and military, and it has the potential to yield additional important information related to military history.

Santa Fe Trail – Kearny County Segment 1 (Charlie’s Ruts) – Kearny County

The Santa Fe Trail-Kearny County Segment 1, also known as Charlie’s Ruts or Bentrup’s Ruts, near Deerfield includes 12 intact swales that span approximately 800 feet. Travel over this segment of the trail likely began in 1821 and ended with the arrival of the railroad in Kit Carson, Colorado, in 1872. This segment is between the Middle (Cimarron) and Upper Crossing of the Arkansas River in southwest Kansas. This site is owned by the Kearny County Historical Society. It is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for its significance in the areas of transportation and commerce, and it has the potential to yield additional information on the use of the trail during its initial period of significance.

Santa Fe Trail – Grant County Segment 1 (Klein’s Ruts) – Grant County

The Santa Fe Trail-Grant County Segment 1, also known as Klein’s Ruts, is located in Grant County, in southwest Kansas. This segment is part of an approximately 40-mile branch of the Cimarron Route that was located entirely within the waterless area known as La Jornada and connected the Mountain Route at the Upper Crossing of the Arkansas River near Lakin with the Cimarron Route. Relatively little is known about this branch between the Arkansas and Cimarron rivers, but the first known use of the Upper Crossing in relation to the trail was during a survey expedition led by George Sibley in 1825 (though he did not survey this site). The nominated property includes several visible trail swales where at least 20 shallow ruts converge to form four main arterial ruts. It is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for its significance in the areas of transportation and commerce, and it has the potential to yield additional important information about this 40-mile branch road between the Arkansas and Cimarron Rivers in Kansas.



Point of Rocks, Morton County. Photo courtesy Dr. Michelle Stevens, USDA Forest Service.

Point of Rocks – Middle Spring Santa Fe Trail Historic District – Morton County

The Point of Rocks—Middle Spring Historic District within the Cimarron National Grassland in Morton County includes multiple remnants of the Cimarron Route. Travel over this segment of the trail began in 1822 and ended with the arrival of the railroad in Kit Carson in 1870. Middle Spring was the next reliable water source west of the Lower Cimarron (or Wagon Bed) Spring. Almost all travelers looking for the water promised at Middle Spring would have used neighboring Point of Rocks as a navigational aid. This large light-colored rock formation with a high flat surface, referred to as Mesa Blanco (white table) by Mexican freighters, could be seen for several miles. In evidence of the role this natural landmark played, visible trail segments curve around Middle Spring and directly to the south of the Point of Rocks. The nominated property includes four trail segments, a spring, a natural navigational aid, and a later commemorative marker erected in 1914 by the Daughters of the American Revolution. It is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for its significance in the areas of transportation, commerce, and social history, and it has the potential to yield additional important information about the trail.

Santa Fe Trail – Cimarron National Grassland Segments 1-5 – Morton County

In addition to the Point of Rocks-Middle Springs Santa Fe Trail Historic District, there are five segments of the Santa Fe Trail in the Cimarron National Grassland that are



Spring Creek School, Sumner County.

nominated to the National Register. Travel over these segments of the trail began in 1822 and ended with the arrival of the railroad in Kit Carson in 1870. These trail segments are closely related to nearby Point of Rocks and Middle Spring, which was the next reliable water source west of the Lower Cimarron (or Wagon Bed) Spring at the western end of La Jornada. Documented trail segments in western Kansas and in the Cimarron National Grassland have confirmed the pattern of traffic in this region historically tended to follow the four-parallel-column formation. The nominated segments include trail swales and two commemorative markers erected in 1907 and 1914 by the Daughters of the American Revolution. They are nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for their significance in the areas of transportation, commerce, and social history, and they have the potential to yield additional information on the use of the trail during its initial period of significance.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES – RELOCATION REQUEST

Spring Creek School – Corbin vicinity, Sumner County

The Spring Creek School is a one-room country schoolhouse built in 1904. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1997 for its association with local education and its vernacular architecture. The school and related outbuildings have fallen into disrepair in recent years and were recently sold in an effort to relocate and save the buildings. The new owners submitted a relocation request to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) for the National Register-listed Spring Creek School. They propose to relocate it approximately seven miles northwest of its current location to a small farmstead that includes another relocated historic school. The Historic Sites Board of Review voted against allowing the relocated school to remain listed in the National Register citing a loss of historic context. However, they voted to retain the buildings' state register listing (should the building be moved.)



Red Barn Craft Studio, McPherson County.



REGISTER OF HISTORIC KANSAS PLACES

Red Barn Craft Studio – 212 S Main, Lindsborg, McPherson County

The Red Barn Craft Studio is an assortment of interconnected buildings and sheds that artist Lester Wilmer Raymer used as his studio and residence for more than 45 years. The property, which later became known simply as the Red Barn Studio, served as his art studio, gallery, and residence from 1945 to 1991, and it continues to function as a gallery and museum dedicated to Raymer's art. During the years Raymer was associated with the property he remodeled and transformed the early 20th century buildings using recycled materials and the result is a unique property that very much displays Raymer's folk art abilities and his evolving skill of working with a variety of mediums. The period of significance begins with Raymer's acquisition of the property in 1945 and extends to 1975, with the last of his major exterior renovations to the property. In addition to the sprawling studio the property includes an early 20th century residence, a free-standing one-car garage, and a shed. It was nominated to the Register of Historic Kansas Places for its association with artist Lester Raymer and for its expression of Raymer's artistic abilities. See related story on page 8.

State Bank of Eudora – 707 Main Street, Eudora, Douglas County

On March 10, 1892, the *Eudora News* proclaimed, "Eudora is to have a bank," and the small one-story brick and stone building opened its doors the following June. The bank's first president was Charles Pilla, an immigrant



State Bank of Eudora, Douglas County.

from Bavaria who settled in Eudora in 1865 and opened a general store. The State Bank failed in 1923 and was then used by the Home State Bank and later the Kaw Valley State Bank. The building has long drawn the attention of passersby with its ornate and highly decorative cornice. It was nominated to the Register of Historic Kansas Places for its local significance in the area of commerce.

The National Register of Historic Places is the country's official list of historically significant properties. Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources. Eligible properties must be significant for one or more of the four criteria for evaluation. Properties can be eligible if they are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. They can be eligible if they are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. Distinctive construction can qualify properties for the National Register if they embody the characteristic of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. Lastly, properties may be eligible for the National Register if they have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history. The National Register recognizes properties of local, statewide, and national significance.

The Register of Historic Kansas Places is our state's official list of historically significant properties. Properties included in the National Register are automatically listed in the state register. However, not all properties listed in the state register are included in the National Register. The same general criteria are used to assess the eligibility of a property for inclusion in the state register, but more flexibility is allowed in the interpretation of the criteria for eligibility.

National Register of Historic Places: [nps.gov/nr](https://www.nps.gov/nr)

Kansas Historical Society (National and state registers):
kshs.org/14638

Lester Raymer

Lester Raymer was born September 24, 1907, and raised on a farm near Alva, Oklahoma. Like many children who grew up on farms during the early 20th century, Raymer helped support the family operation from an early age. He acquired his handiwork skills, including metalsmithing and blacksmithing, from his farming duties. From travels with his mother to visit family in Illinois he was influenced to attend the Chicago Art Institute. Raymer's future wife, Ramona Weddle, a Lindsborg native, was a fellow art student there. He left the institute in 1933 and returned to Alva when his father fell ill.

by Sarah Martin

National Register Coordinator, Kansas Historical Society

Between 1934 and 1945 Raymer worked out of his first art studio on an abandoned farmstead that his folks owned near Alva. He continued his coursework and taught a few classes at Northwestern State College in Alva, which allowed him to complete his degree in fine arts. Ed and Cora Weddle, Ramona's parents, set aside a corner of their Brunswick hotel in Lindsborg for an art studio. Lester and Ramona were married on October 12, 1945. The Weddles purchased the small residence adjacent to the hotel as their retirement home, and they gave Lester and Ramona the laundry building and barn that were on the hotel property. With this, Red Barn Craft Studio was born.

The first phase of renovations took place in 1946 and 1947 and involved turning the laundry house and barn into a home and studio. The Raymers poured a concrete footing and slab and joined the two buildings creating living space. Raymer used architectural features from salvage yards, demolition sites, and the city dump to artistically enhance the home. He built the brick fireplace that was used to heat their home. Porch and stair spindles, wooden corbels, unique doors and windows, and anything that caught Raymer's eye, was repurposed to become a part of the environment in which they lived and worked. A salvaged shed, breezeway, and another small barn were added to the studio later.

Raymer spent the summer of 1947 in Taos, which led to his interest in the crafts movement and inspired him to continue working on Red Barn Craft Studio. In his essay "Lester Raymer and his Art World," historian Bruce Kahler recounts the local interest in Raymer and his



Lester Raymer in his studio. Photos courtesy Raymer Society.

transformation of the property into his residence and studio. The *Lindsborg News-Record* wrote, "The amazing thing about the new home is that Lester Raymer has done nearly all the work himself with the aid and advice of his talented wife." Another publication suggested the studio

was a “striking testimony that the young artist wields a hammer and saw as well as he handles a palette.” Kahler notes that Raymer was particularly pleased with himself for having used no new materials in the creation of the studio. Raymer said, “It is an experiment in making something out of nothing.”

Kahler provides examples of Raymer’s growing reputation in the art world. For example, Peggy Greene of the *Topeka Daily Capital* wrote several pieces featuring Raymer, who she found “quiet, genuine, and not a little inscrutable.” She described Raymer as “an artist whose concentration of sincerity and fundamental soundness is reaching farther and farther from his home studio of the Red Barn in Lindsborg.” Invitations to one-man exhibitions increased for Raymer during the 1950s. He heard from such places as the Mulvane Art Center in Topeka and the art department at the Municipal University of Wichita, and was a “perennial favorite in Hutchinson at the annual Art Association shows.”

Although his primary artistic focus was painting and drawing, Raymer’s tradition of working with a variety of mediums can be traced back to his farming roots. His talent with various mediums enabled him to earn a living, and his uses of mediums evolved to meet the request of those commissioning his art. According to



A jack-in-the-box among Raymer’s Christmas toys.



Raymer’s primary artistic focus was painting and drawing.

Kahler, Raymer was generally known for his ceramics during the 1940s and 1950s, but religious creations came to dominate his work as his reputation grew and his commissions increased. Although Raymer is known widely for his religious art he was not an outwardly devout man. Author Diane Thomas Lincoln suggests he was influenced by the Byzantine and Spanish traditions, but his religious art is inspired by many cultures and religious traditions, and in this sense “Raymer was an early multi-cultural visual arts educator.” His reputation as a toymaker came later in his career during the 1970s and 1980s. Beginning in the early 1960s and ending in 1990, Raymer made a toy for Ramona and gave it to her at Christmas. This collection of 53 objects has become known as The Christmas Toys.

Although Ramona attended the Chicago Art Institute, she did not pursue her own artistic career but rather spent much of her time supporting and promoting her husband’s career. She arranged and gave tours of the studio, maintained their business financial records, and promoted their studio to visitors. As the couple aged and their health deteriorated in the late 1980s and early 1990s, concern grew about the fate of Red Barn Studio. In consultation with friends and family, they founded a non-profit organization in 1986—known as the Raymer Society—to preserve the studio as a museum and provide arts and cultural programming. Lester died in 1991 and Ramona in 1992.

Topeka Downtown Survey Completed

A series of projects on the drawing board with the city of Topeka will impact the physical appearance of that city's downtown area. A proposal to realign I-70 has been adopted, and the Capital District Project will redesign public spaces along Kansas Avenue. North of the Kansas River, the NOTO (North Topeka) Arts District is picking up steam as the community reinvents this 19th century commercial node for the 21st century. The redevelopment efforts these projects and others will spur have the potential to either support or detract from the historic character of Topeka's oldest major commercial corridor.

by Elizabeth Rosin
Rosin Preservation, LLC

To help decision-makers balance new opportunities with historic preservation, the city of Topeka applied for and was successfully awarded a Historic Preservation Fund grant in 2011. The city then contracted with Rosin Preservation, LLC, to complete a survey of historic resources in the Kansas Avenue commercial district. The goal of the project was two-fold: 1) to identify buildings that may be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or the Register of Historic Kansas Places, and 2) conversely, to identify areas that are not register eligible and therefore prime for redevelopment.

Survey

Using boundaries developed by the Topeka Landmarks Commission, 221 buildings were inventoried in an area along Kansas Avenue, both north and south of the Kansas River. The boundary included the original 19th century commercial centers of Topeka and North Topeka (originally the town of Eugene). Both areas are densely built with commercial, industrial, and government buildings erected over a 150-year period between 1855 and 2009.

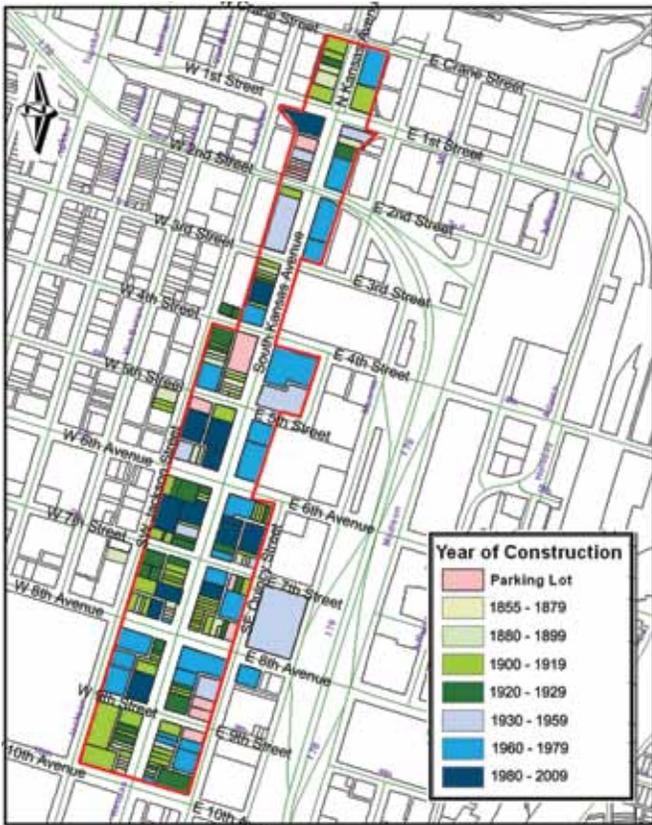
They illustrate an evolution of function and design that amalgamated as the modern city of Topeka. The majority of buildings surveyed were constructed before the Great Depression, with distinct building booms around 1890, 1910, and 1925. Most have simple, functional forms with minimal architectural detail or ornament. Those with a higher level of design express their period of construction through the highly detailed surfaces typical of Late Victorian architecture or through the classical ornament and motifs associated with revival period design. Streamlined façades and geometric ornament from the 1930s and 1940s

acknowledge the arrival of the Modern Movement to Topeka. Larger high rise office buildings with glass and metal skins showcase development from the mid-20th century.

South of the river, Topeka's commercial district experienced dramatic changes after World War II, when civic leaders attempted to revitalize the community's



Aerial photograph of downtown Topeka.

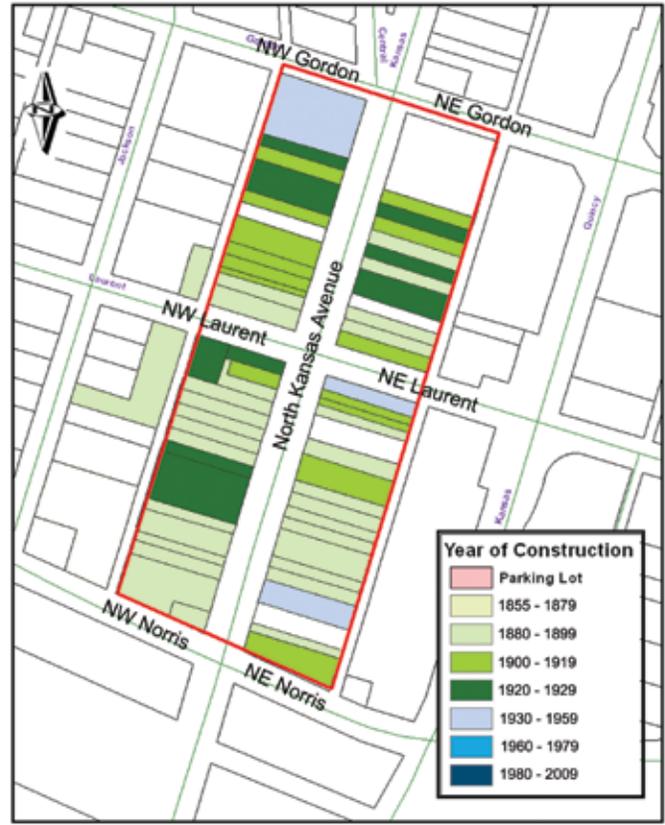


Survey area south of the Kansas River.

business and governmental center. This coincided with the city's centennial anniversary, a time when many of Topeka's older buildings were entering a natural cycle of decline. In this light, federal Urban Renewal monies were an attractive enticement for private investors to develop new, modern commercial and industrial buildings; buildings that drew attention to the city's present and future, rather than its past. The rich mix of mid-20th century Modern Movement styles with buildings from earlier, more-traditionally "historic" eras enhances the texture of downtown Topeka and tells a complete version of its history.

Findings

To make recommendations about register eligibility, the dates of construction, historic function, and architectural style were considered along with building integrity. Integrity evaluates the degree to which a historic building design remains unaltered. Buildings that retain integrity and demonstrate significance may be eligible for listing in the National Register or Kansas register, which can provide important access to financial incentives for rehabilitation, such as federal and state historic tax credits.



Survey area north of the Kansas River.

Register Eligibility

Twelve buildings in the survey area are currently listed in the National Register or Kansas register. Two additional buildings were identified as individually eligible—the U.S. Post Office (424 S Kansas Avenue) and the Topeka City Hall and Municipal Auditorium (215 SE 7th Street). The team also identified three groups of buildings that appear eligible for register listing as a historic district.

North Topeka Historic District

The North Topeka survey area is a cohesive node of commercial design with excellent examples of Victorian architecture. The 40 surveyed buildings form a potential historic district that illustrates the commercial development of North Topeka. Beginning in 1865, the year the town of Eugene was platted, North Topeka grew along a parallel but semi-independent path from South Topeka. The Victorian façades of some resources were modernized in the early to mid-20th century. These changes have achieved historical significance in their own right and enhance our understanding of how this commercial district evolved. Alterations to 14 buildings would render them non-contributing to the historic district.



U.S. Post Office, 424 S. Kansas Avenue. Photo courtesy Brad Finch.

Kansas Avenue Industrial Historic District

Six industrial warehouses on the west side of North Kansas Avenue between Crane and 1st Streets (south of the Kansas River) form another small, potential historic district. These resources reflect the development of light industry and commercial warehouses along the Kansas River, beginning around 1880 after establishment of the railroads in Topeka. All six buildings would be contributing to the historic district.

South Kansas Avenue Commercial Historic District

The eight blocks flanking South Kansas Avenue between 6th and 10th Avenues form a potential district with 75 contributing resources and 39 non-contributing resources. This area represents the densest concentration of historic commercial and governmental resources in the survey area. The solid streetwalls of historic buildings are typical of the period of development, while the variety of architectural styles and building forms reflect the steady growth and evolution of downtown Topeka over a 150-year period. Shifts in architectural tastes from Victorian to historical revival to Modern Movement have not weakened the definitive commercial character of this potential district. Non-contributing resources include seven buildings that have been altered and 32 resources constructed after 1962. Several of these more recent buildings have direct associations with urban revitalization efforts of the late 1960s and early 1970s and provide good examples of Modern Movement design. When they reach 50 years of age their register eligibility should be re-evaluated.

Vintage Buildings

In addition to the potentially eligible buildings and districts, Rosin Preservation identified a group of resources



Topeka City Hall and Municipal Auditorium, 215 S.E. 7th. Photo courtesy Brad Finch.

as “Vintage.” These are buildings more than 50 years of age that possess a level of importance that is distinctly above that of non-contributing resources, although they may lack the necessary qualities to contribute to a historic district or they may be physically isolated from a group of buildings that could form a historic district. Regardless of their surroundings, Vintage buildings should not be considered “throw-away” resources. They enhance our understanding of Topeka’s built environment and give legitimacy to the history of their surroundings. Vintage buildings constructed before 1936 may be eligible to use the 10 percent federal historic tax credit to support a renovation project.

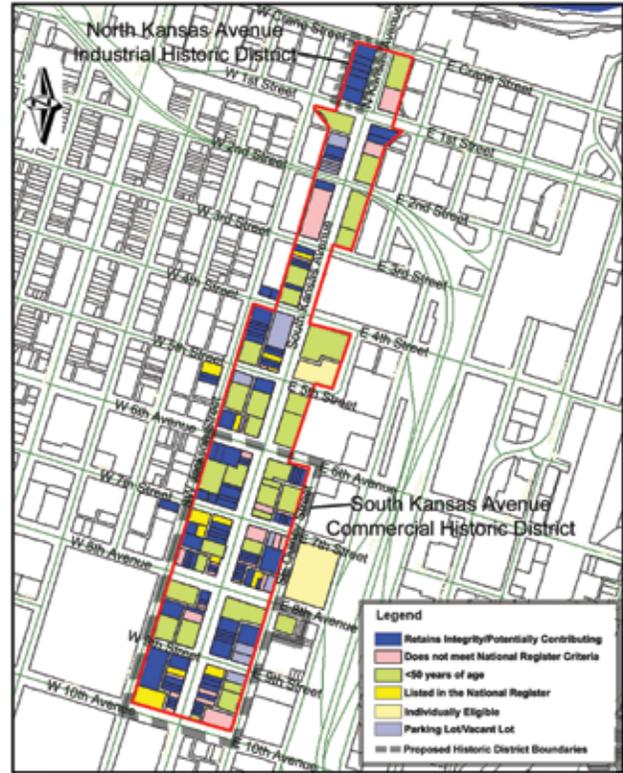
Conclusion

As the oldest major commercial corridor in Topeka, Kansas Avenue embodies the city’s evolution from territorial settlement to state capital. Documenting this sequence of development, the surveyed buildings define the commercial history of the community, provide tangible reminders of the past, and create a unique sense of place. As Topeka’s commercial core continues to evolve, change provides the opportunity to strengthen and enrich its visual character and to enhance the qualities already appreciated by residents and visitors.

Nationwide, the most successful community revitalization efforts utilize historic rehabilitation as the core of their strategies. These efforts create sustainable communities by merging the old with the new. The findings of this survey—identification of potential historic resources as well as identification of areas without historic resources—will provide critical support to planning efforts in the Topeka and North Topeka commercial hubs. Public and private sector decision-makers can merge this information with established and proposed goals, policies, and initiatives to



Potential North Topeka Historic District.



"Vintage" buildings south of the Kansas River.

generate a program that creatively combines preservation, adaptive reuse, and new construction. Building on the aesthetics and craftsmanship from earlier eras offers opportunities for architectural innovation and promotes creative thinking that will enhance the character and fabric of the community.

In addition to its unique economic advantages, historic preservation is also an effective and important tool for the conservation of natural resources. After years of exploiting resources, people are now considering how their surroundings fit into the larger environment. Better stewardship of older buildings and structures recognizes that these resources contain energy that has already been expended through mining and harvesting of raw materials, manufacturing, shipping, and assembly. Materials from

demolished buildings accounts for up to 40 percent of landfill deposits, the costs of which are indirectly borne by taxpayers. At the same time, new construction also consumes new energy and resources, often placing even more financial burdens on those same taxpayers. The "greenest" building is the one that is already built.

When considered together—embodied energy, cultural memory, and craftsmanship—historic preservation provides a critical mechanism to ensure the long-term vitality and sustainability of our unique built environments. Completion of the Downtown Topeka Historical Survey gives the greater Topeka community a new, important resource to strengthen its core historical assets as its leaders continue to vision a bright future for the community.



All surveyed resources were uploaded to the Kansas Historic Resources Inventory (KHRI). To see the results, visit kshs.org/khri and search for the survey project "Topeka – Downtown Historic Resources Survey (2011)." To see the survey report visit kshs.org/survey-reports.

Historic Preservation Fund Grants

Twelve Historic Preservation Fund Grant projects were announced pending allocation of funding at the Kansas Historic Sites Board of Review meeting May 12, 2012. Applications for the 2013 grant round will be available on kshs.org by late November 2012 and will be due March 15, 2013. This year's projects are:



Martin Van Buren Parker House, Olathe. The City of Olathe is utilizing a 2012 HPF grant to produce a city-wide preservation plan.

City of Hutchinson – Survey of Downtown “Gap” Area	\$8,994
City of Lawrence – Historic Resources of Lawrence 1945-1970 MPSD	\$7,200
City of Manhattan – Project Archaeology Teacher Workshops	\$12,757
City of Newton – McKinley Historic District Design Guidelines	\$15,800
City of Newton – NAPC Forum scholarship	\$3,000
City of Olathe – Olathe Preservation Plan	\$20,618
City of Topeka – Topeka Preservation Plan	\$23,100
City of Wichita – commercial/Industrial Resources 1870-1963 MPDF	\$20,000
Doniphan County – Window Preservation Workshop	\$16,200
Kansas Preservation Alliance – 2012 Preservation Symposium	\$5,000
Kansas State University – Archeological Evaluation of the Dreiling Sites	\$4,893
Kansas State University – Flint Hills Archaeological Conference	\$2,930



Class House, 306 E. 4th, Newton. HPF grant funds will help the City of Newton develop design guidelines for their McKinley Residential Historic District.



Cudahy Packing Plant, Wichita. The City of Wichita will document historic industrial and manufacturing facilities with the assistance of HPF grant funding.

Arkansas City Newest Kansas Certified Local Government

by Katrina Ringler

Certified Local Government Coordinator, Kansas Historical Society

The National Park Service (NPS) approved a new Certified Local Government (CLG) for Kansas on March 22, 2012. Arkansas City became the 16th CLG within the state and the city is already benefitting from that designation. CLGs are local units of government that are certified by the NPS after making a commitment to preservation. They demonstrate that commitment by adopting a local preservation ordinance that establishes a preservation commission and a local landmark program. Some CLG ordinances allow their preservation commissions to review proposed projects on local landmark properties or task them with providing educational opportunities for the public to learn more about historic preservation.

The benefits of CLG status for local communities are important. By designating significant historic resources to a local landmark program, communities take responsibility for protecting their own heritage. Creation of local designation and project review processes is one of the strongest ways to protect cultural resources in a community.

CLGs also benefit from support by state- and national-level partners in the form of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the National Park Service (NPS). Both government agencies provide valuable technical support to local preservation commissioners and staff. They also facilitate various educational training opportunities for those individuals. For example, the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC) hosted its biannual forum July 18-22, 2012, in Norfolk, Virginia. The NPS sponsored the event, but it also offered scholarships to local and state

preservation professionals to attend. The NPS also provided funding this year to the Kansas SHPO to host a three-day workshop focusing on the connection between sustainability and preservation, which was targeted directly toward CLGs. Staff and commissioners from 11 of the Kansas CLGs, including Arkansas City, attended that workshop at the end of July. Eight individuals from those CLGs received travel and lodging assistance from the SHPO and NPS.

Funding for local preservation-related activities such as surveying historic resources, developing a preservation plan, or creating design review guidelines for historic districts is available to CLGs through the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grant program. Each year the NPS allocates funds from the HPF to the SHPOs to support state-wide preservation programs. Each SHPO must pass through a minimum 10 percent of its allocation to CLGs in the state. The Kansas SHPO typically passes through more than required to assist CLGs with projects such as hosting educational workshops, designating historic districts to the National Register of Historic Places, and producing heritage tourism materials. Information about the HPF grant program in Kansas is available online at kshs.org/p/historic-preservation-fund/14615.

Find more information about the CLG program through the National Park Service's website at nps.gov/history/hps/clg/. For more information about CLGs in Kansas, visit kshs.org/p/certified-local-government-program/14607 or contact Katrina Ringler, CLG coordinator, 785-272-8681, ext. 215; kringler@kshs.org.



Views of downtown Arkansas City, left to right, the Arkansas City Office Building; South Summit Street, First National Bank.

Restoration Work at Pawnee Rock Completed

Located along the Santa Fe Trail, Pawnee Rock State Historic Site was considered the halfway point between Independence, Missouri, and Santa Fe and was a prominent landmark for travelers, many of whom carved their names into the rock. After the trail period, Pawnee Rock served a different purpose. The sandstone made good roadbed material for the railroad, and a quarry was established on top of the rock for this purpose and other local construction projects. In the process, the height was reduced significantly by the end of the 1800s. Because of its association with the Santa Fe Trail, Pawnee Rock became state property in 1909. The state erected a monument that was dedicated on May 24, 1912. The pavilion, designed by state architect Ray L. Gamble, was constructed in 1920. The observation deck on the roof of the pavilion approximates the original height of Pawnee Rock.

With funding partially provided through the Transportation Enhancement Program from the Kansas Department of Transportation, restoration work was completed on the monument and pavilion. The spiral stair leading to the upper platform was replaced with new cast iron treads cast from an historic section of the stair. The damaged and spalling concrete was patched and repaired, and a new ADA accessible sidewalk was added to connect the parking area atop the outcropping to the pavilion and monument.

Mandi Barnard, 2012 Hall Center intern, contributed to this article.



Kansas Archeology Training Program

by Tricia Waggoner
Highway Archeologist, Kansas Historical Society



The 2012 Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) field school took place June 2-17 in Topeka at a Kansa Indian village. The excavation was a cooperative effort among the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), Kansas Historical Society (KSHS), and Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA). The site was chosen because of a planned KDOT project that will impact large portions of the site. An agreement was made between KDOT and KSHS to recover as much information as possible from the site before it is destroyed.

Mon-chonsia by Charles Bird King, 1822. Painted for the book *History of the Indian Tribes of North America* by Thomas L. McKenney and James Hall, 1933.

KSHS, with KDOT approval, partnered with KAA to give members of the public a chance to assist in the excavation of this important archeological resource. In addition to the excavation, an artifact processing laboratory, classes on archeological and built-environment topics, and evening programs were offered. A total of 200 volunteers donated 6,985 hours to field work, lab work, and classes. Participants came from Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, Missouri, Iowa, Colorado, and California.

Site History

The field school site was a Kansa Indian village, specifically Fool Chief's Village (14SH305). It was one of three Kansa villages occupied from 1830-1844, situated along the Kansas River in the area around present-day Topeka. The other two villages were Hard Chief's Village and American Chief's Village. The villages were named after their head chiefs. Fool Chief and Hard Chief are English translations of the names of the chiefs. Fool Chief's name was actually *Ka-he-ga-wa-ta-ne-ga*. *Ka-he-ga* means chief and *wa-ta-ne-ga* means brave to the point of rashness. Hard Chief's name was *Ka-he-ga-wa-che-ha*. American Chief got his name from a visit to Washington.

The population of the Kansa at this time was about 1,500 people, with 700 to 800 of them living in Fool Chief's Village, 500 to 600 living at Hard Chief's Village, and around 200 living at American Chief's Village. The Kansa had moved to the area from a single large village, Blue Earth Village, located outside of present-day Manhattan. The Kansa moved after a treaty signed in 1825 created a new reservation for the Kansa and large farms, opened in 1827 and run by the Indian Agency to provide additional food for the Kansa and to encourage a more agricultural subsistence.

The Kansa at the time were a horse and gun culture, relying heavily on seasonal bison hunts. They spent half the year in their village and the other half on the hunt. These hunts corresponded to the seasons with planting in the spring, followed by a summer hunt, then a return to the village in the fall for harvest, followed by a winter hunt.

The villages that they occupied for half of the year consisted of lodges that would house up to 10 people and were about 10-12 meters or 30-35 feet in diameter. Four to eight (depending on the size of the house) large central support posts surrounded a central hearth. Smaller posts supported the outer walls, which were covered with bark or hide with an opening in the center of the roof to allow smoke



Illustration from Letters and Sketches: With a Narrative of a Year's Residence among the Indian Tribes of the Rocky Mountains, by Pierre-Jean De Smet. De Smet was a Catholic Priest who traveled widely among American Indian tribes from 1831 until his death in 1873.

to escape. The houses had sleeping bunks along the walls and a blanket or hide covering on the entry.

The village was abandoned in 1844 after one of the largest Kansas River floods ever recorded. Richard W. Cummins, the Indian Agent to the Kansa at the time, reported that the river

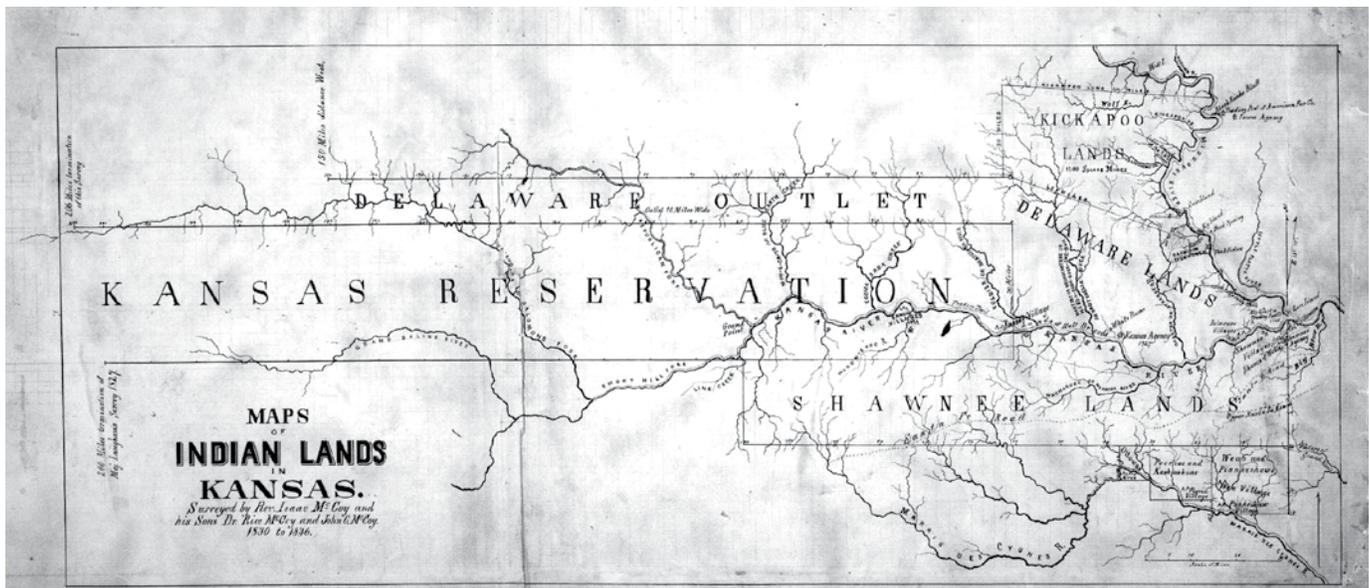
was “... overflown from bluff to bluff, sweeping off all the fencing, houses, & c.” Fool Chief relocated his village to the mouth of Vermillion Creek. Two years later a new treaty was signed, and the Kansa were relocated to Council Grove

Research

Before the excavation took place, research questions were developed to guide the investigation. These questions are based on what is known about the site from historical sources. The questions are about trade, lodge styles, and how this village compares to other Kansa villages or contact period villages of other tribes. It may not be possible to answer all of the research questions during this investigation, but they are important to keep in mind.

Trade

1. Other than bison, what animals for fur trade are represented in the faunal remains at the site?
2. Do faunal remains of fur trade animals show evidence of butchering and cooking?
3. To what degree are trade goods altered or repurposed by the Kansa at Fool Chief's Village?



This map represents all the surveys of Indian lands completed by missionary Isaac McCoy between the years 1830 and 1836. McCoy, a missionary to the Ottawa and Pottawatomie tribes in Michigan, was convinced that Indians should be moved to new lands west of the Mississippi River. He took some Indian delegates on exploring missions in addition to his work as surveyor, missionary, and teacher. The map was redrawn by H. J. Adams.



Kansa Indian dwelling made from tree bark, 1922. Photograph from Villages of the Algonquian, Siouan, and Caddoan Tribes of the Mississippi by David Ives Bushnell, Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 11:Plate 31, Smithsonian Institution.

4. Are any pre-contact manufacturing styles still being practiced by the Kansa at Fool Chief's Village, or has all manufacturing been altered by trade?
5. What is the origin of most trade goods found at Fool Chief's Village?

Lodge Style

1. Historical accounts describe the Kansa as living in both earth lodge villages and bark lodge villages. What style of lodge was being used at Fool Chief's Village?
2. Do lodge sizes vary at Fool Chief's Village? If so, why?
3. The drawing of Fool Chief's Village in *Letters and Sketches* by De Smet in 1843 shows one house that is rectangular, possibly the residence of the Principal Chief or of a European. Is there evidence of any houses that are not earth or bark lodges?

Regional Comparison

1. How does Fool Chief's Village compare with other known Kansa sites, such as Hard Chief's Village, Blue Earth Village, the Fanning Site in Doniphan County, and Council Grove villages?
2. How does Fool Chief's Village compare with a contact period Pawnee village, such as the Kansas Monument Site?

Other

1. Historical accounts mention "swords" and "cutlasses." Waldo Wedel found evidence of pistols at Blue Earth Village in the 1930s. What evidence of non-hunting defense weapons are there at Fool Chief's Village?
2. Is there evidence of horses at Fool Chief's Village?
3. Is there evidence of dogs at Fool Chief's Village?
4. Where are the burials from Fool Chief's Village?
5. This site has a large amount of rodent disturbance; what effect does this have on artifact distribution?
6. The occupation of this site was ended by a large flood in 1844. What effect did this flood have on the preservation of the site?

The last time a Kansa village underwent major excavation was in 1987. The work at Hard Chief's Village was also a KATP field school. Much has changed in archeology in 25 years. Improvements in mapping equipment and data recovery techniques provide an excellent opportunity to learn a great deal from this excavation.

Excavations

In May 2012 the plow zone from the area of impact from the highway project was removed with a belly scraper. The area scraped was 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 and are probable houses. The excavations concentrated on five potential house features and a large area of scattered bone.

Excavations in the houses started with 2 by 10-meter trenches, excavated in 2 by 2-meter squares, through roughly the middle of the features. These trenches were excavated to below any cultural layers in order to draw detailed profiles and guide 1 by 1-meter excavations in other areas of the houses.

Each feature excavated during the field school had a crew chief responsible for directing volunteers: Feature 230 with Melanie Naden, Feature 232 with Vita Tucker, Feature 234 with Nancy Arendt, Feature 272 with Chris Hord, Feature 282 with Mark Darrow, and Feature 287 with Dan Rowlinson.

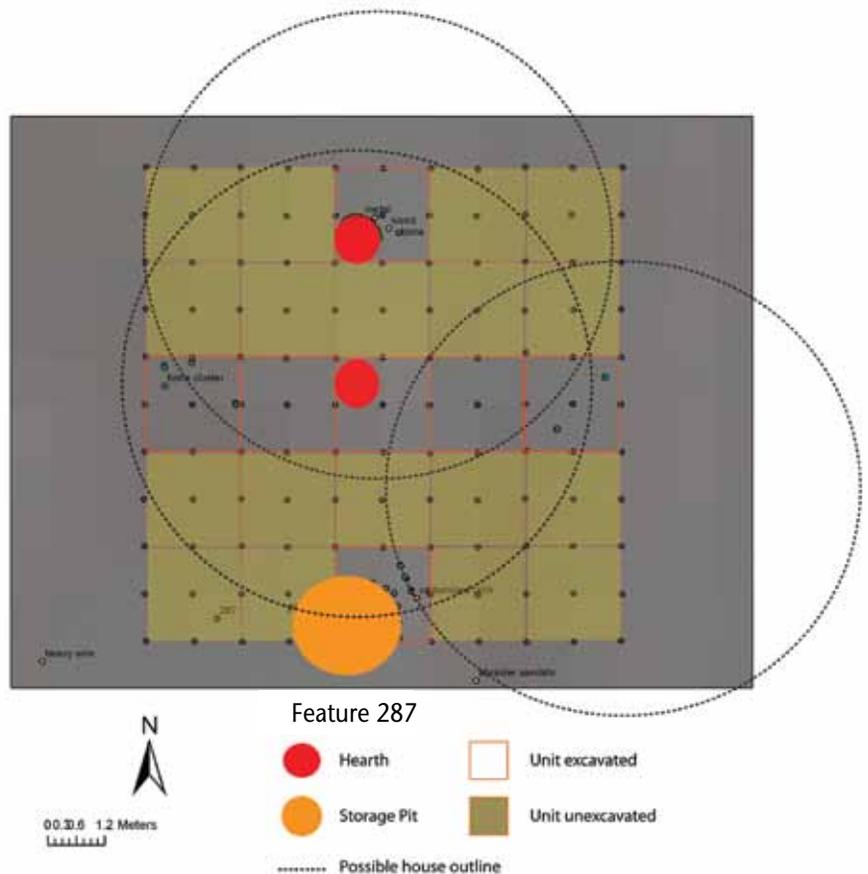


Above, Feature 230 is a trash dump of animal bone; right, Feature 287 represents overlapping houses, built at different times.

Feature 230 proved to be a bone midden. Large amounts of animal bone, mostly deer, were dumped in this area. Feature 232 was an activity area, possibly outdoors. Several metal projectile point caches and a storage pit were found but no evidence of a structure. Feature 234 was a house with a central hearth. Feature 272 has not undergone enough excavation to determine what it is. Feature 282 represents a house with a central hearth, large central support post, and a storage pit outside of the house. Feature 287 was at least two and possibly three houses, built in the same location at different times. It includes two hearths, large support posts, smaller wall posts, and a storage pit.

Continuing Work

The KATP field school ended on June 17, but the excavation at Fool Chief's Village is not complete. A crew will continue excavation through the fall and possibly into next year. Since the field school concluded, profiles for three of the five houses have been completed and excavation of 1 by 1-meter units outside of the profile trenches has begun.



New Radiocarbon Dates for Two Central Plains Tradition Sites

Radiocarbon dating was introduced in the late 1940s. It soon revolutionized archeology by providing what textbooks often refer to as an “absolute” dating technique, which is to say, one that can provide a calendar date for a site, an event, or an object. For areas such as the Central Plains, where previously it often was difficult even to put sites in time relative to one another, radiocarbon dating was an immense boon, permitting not only assigning a calendar date to a site, but also providing a timeline against which the tempo of change could be measured and different areas compared to one another. A recent Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grant has provided an opportunity for more precise dating of two Kansas archeological sites.

by **Donna Roper**

Research Associate Professor, Kansas State University

The first radiocarbon date for an archeological site in Kansas was run in the early 1950s on a charcoal sample from the Woodland tradition Woodruff Ossuary in Phillips County. It appears that the first radiocarbon date for a late prehistoric, Central Plains tradition site in Kansas was run about 1961 or 1962 on a sample from the Root site in Lincoln County. From then on, it became routine to obtain at least one date on material from a newly excavated site or as collections from old excavations are revisited and dated. All this means that a substantial number of radiocarbon dates from archeological sites have accumulated over the last half century. The timeline of Kansas archeology, such as in shown in the introduction to the book *Kansas Archeology* or the Kansas archeology timeline brochure produced by Professional Archaeologists of Kansas, is based on analysis of radiocarbon dates.

The late prehistoric Central Plains tradition sites in Kansas and adjacent states is particularly well represented in the cumulative radiocarbon dates dataset for the region. This portion of the dataset alone now contains just under 450 dates from just over 150 sites. While this sounds like it should provide a solid basis for understanding the chronology of this prominent cultural tradition, in fact the dataset is not as robust as those numbers may suggest, for robustness is not

dependent on numbers of dates alone, but also on the quality of the dates. There are several reasons for this and some early obtained dates now must be viewed skeptically. For one, radiocarbon dating itself has undergone considerable refinements of technique in the 60-plus years since it was introduced. For another, and very importantly, archeologists have come to much better understand what they have to do to obtain high-quality dates. Two points are particularly pertinent here. One is that it is not sufficient to obtain only one date for a site, for the only real way to know if it is correct is to have corroboration from a second and preferably even a third date. The second point is that care must be exercised in selecting samples for radiocarbon dating. Radiocarbon dating really dates the age of the sample and not necessarily the site. For a date to also accurately date the site it came from, the sample must be established as both contemporary with and clearly associated with the remains of the occupation.

Contemporaneity probably is the single largest problem with the Central Plains tradition radiocarbon dates dataset. This is because of what archaeologists now recognize as the old wood problem or old wood effect. The essence of this problem is that, until fairly recently, samples submitted for radiocarbon dating had to weigh at least 20 grams or more,



Donna Roper and Harold Reed at the Albert Bell Site (14SD305) in 2000.

and wood charcoal is the material most likely to provide samples that size. The problem with wood charcoal, however, is that chances are good that it is wood from inner rings of the tree it came from and that those rings had in effect died well before the wood was used by the site's inhabitants. The specific rings that became the sample, and hence the determined age, thus may well be years, decades, or even a century or more older than the occupation. Hence, they are old wood. Radiocarbon dating advances of the last couple decades now allow analysis of samples of one-one thousandth or less this size. This means that small short-lived plant materials, such as individual seeds, nutshells, grass, or small twigs with one or two growth rings, all of which can very reasonably be presumed to have grown at a time contemporary with the occupation, can be dated. This same technique, accelerator mass spectrometry or AMS dating, also usually produces tighter standard deviations, and hence higher precision to go along with the likely greater accuracy resulting from dating materials that were contemporaneous with the occupation. These and other advances and realizations are leading archeologists worldwide to critically assess their accumulated radiocarbon dates and rework regional chronologies.

A review of the dataset for the Central Plains tradition shows that nearly three-quarters of the total set of dates are on wood charcoal. About two years ago, the percentage would have been more near 85 or 90 percent. The difference is the result of recent efforts to assess and upgrade the chronology for this cultural tradition by submitting AMS dates on multiple samples of short-lived remains from as many individual contexts as possible. Around 60 new



Excavations underway at the Wollenberg Site (14WH319) in 1991.

dates recently have been obtained for sites in central and north-central Kansas, and in the Missouri River area, as part of a larger program of research into the organization of societies in this part of the Central Plains tradition. Sites beyond that study area could not be considered, but that portion of the dataset is equally in need of upgrade. Many of these sites are in Nebraska, but a few are in Kansas. Accordingly, a grant application to the Historic Preservation Fund was successful, and permitted high-precision AMS radiocarbon dates to be obtained on two sites that fall within the jurisdiction of no federal or state agency, leaving few identifiable potential funding sources to obtain new dates.

The two sites are the Wollenberg site (14WH319) in Washington County and the Albert Bell site (14SD305) in Sheridan County. Each is a Central Plains tradition site excavated by the Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP), a collaboration between the Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA) and the Kansas Historical Society (KSHS). A single radiocarbon date had been obtained for each site, but each date was on wood charcoal and had a fairly low precision. For all the reasons discussed above, the two sites were in need of re-dating.

Three samples were selected from the collections from each site. The Wollenberg site collection actually contains no annual plant remains, such as corn kernels, but it does contain some twigs with few growth rings, some grass stems, and a portion of a structural timber retaining outer growth rings and bark. Portions of a twig, a grass stem, and a small portion of the outermost growth ring of the

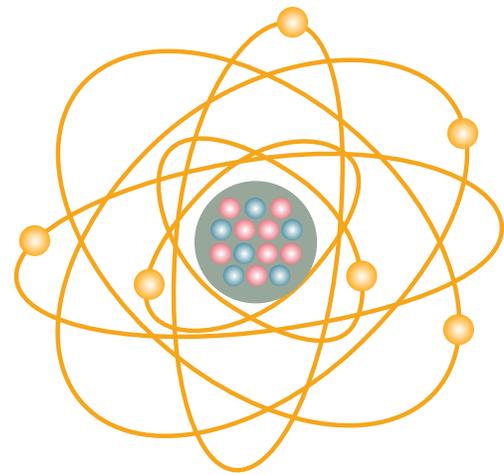
structural timber were selected. The Albert Bell site collection does contain annual plant remains. Accordingly, two charred corn kernel fragments and a sunflower seed were chosen. All samples were submitted to PaleoResearch Institute in Golden, Colorado, for dating.

Individual Central Plains tradition lodges probably were occupied for only a decade or less before they deteriorated and needed replacement. It follows that if short-lived material from an individual lodge is truly contemporary with the occupation of the lodge, then multiple dates on this material should be identical to one another, within the limits of the uncertainty factor associated with the date itself. This expectation is met in the case of the Wollenberg site dates. The three received ages were 630 ± 15 , 640 ± 15 , and 645 ± 15 radiocarbon years before present (rcybp). When tested statistically, these dates are the same. Using standard programs to calibrate the ages, which is to say convert the ages to calendar dates, and expressing those conversions as date ranges with a 95.4 percent chance of containing the true date of the samples (and presumably of the occupation), the calendar dates for these sites fall in the period A.D. 1280-1330 or 1340-1400. It is impossible at present to determine which of these two date ranges is correct, but it seems likely that it is the earlier of the two.

The Albert Bell site dates are not quite so consistent but still are valid indicators of the age of this site. The three received ages for those samples are 630 ± 15 , 635 ± 15 , and 680 ± 20 rcybp. Collectively, when tested statistically, these dates are the same, but when the oldest of the three is tested against the youngest, the two are statistically different. What has happened here, however, is that the oldest-appearing date is from a very small sample. AMS dating can work with small samples, but there is a limit to how small it can be, and this one may have been too close to that limit to contain enough radioactive carbon to give a reliable date. The other two dates are statistically the same. Their ages calibrate to A.D. 1290-1330 or 1340-1400. Again, the earlier of the two date ranges intuitively seems the more likely, but that cannot be verified at this time.

Comparing these dates with those from other Central Plains tradition sites shows a high degree of consistency among the newly obtained dates and those recently obtained on short-lived remains from elsewhere in the region. It also shows that, as expected, dating of materials truly contemporaneous with occupations shifts the Central Plains tradition chronology slightly later than previously thought. The older part of the date spread also is tightened

by the higher precision of the dates and the elimination of dates that are anomalously old due to old wood. The greater accuracy and precision does not, and probably never will, allow us to determine sequences of individual lodges in time. Instead, and more realistically, the new dating is beginning to allow us to much better understand the relative temporal placement of occupation of various localities on the Central Plains. The resolution of various long-standing questions in Central Plains tradition archeology will depend, in part, on having this more accurate and sensitive chronology.



Radiocarbon Dating

Radioactive carbon-14 is formed as cosmic rays strike the upper atmosphere. The cells in plants and animals are constantly being replaced. New carbon replaces the old. Most of this new carbon is non-radioactive carbon-12, but some is the radioactive carbon-14. Plants absorb carbon through photosynthesis, while animals absorb it by eating plants (or other animals). When plants and animals die, the carbon-14 begins to decay at a steady rate. The rate of decay is called half-life. Half of the carbon-14 is left after 5,730 years, a fourth of the carbon-14 is left after 11,460 years, and so forth. By measuring how much carbon-14 is being emitted from a sample, scientists can calculate the age of the material.

Professional Archeologists Announce Award

Richard Gould, site administrator at Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, received the Public Service Award from the Professional Archaeologists of Kansas (PAK) on August 18, 2012. The award is made to an individual and/or organization outside the archeological profession who has made an important contribution to preserving archeological resources or to promoting public awareness of Kansas' archeological heritage.



Richard Gould, left, with his family at the award presentation.

The plaque was presented by PAK President Fiona Price and Secretary Donna Roper.

PAK is an 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 about the historic and prehistoric cultural heritage of Kansas and the importance of protecting and preserving archeological resources for future generations.

The written nomination cited Gould's devotion to the care, security, and interpretation of Pawnee Indian Museum; his respect for Pawnee heritage and engagement of American Indians who visit the museum; his age- and interest-appropriate interaction with all visitors to the site; his willingness to promote and facilitate archeological investigations of the site, using current research topics in his

discussions with visitors and incorporating the excavations into the exhibit value of the site. The nomination concludes, "Richard Gould is one of the nicest people you will ever meet. The Kansas Monument site is a very significant component of the early historic period in the central Plains and an invaluable link in Pawnee history. Work at this site is thus very rewarding, but it is made even better by the support and contributions of Richard Gould."

Attending the ceremony were Gould's parents and brother, as well as members of the PIMSHS Friends group and local supporters. The award presentation was covered by the *Belleville Telescope*.

The presentation was made in conjunction with Pawnee Indian Museum's annual artifact identification session. Gould estimated that about 75 people participated in the event.

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
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Happenings in Kansas

Online at kshs.org/events

Through February 24

Hail to the Chief exhibit • Kansas Museum of History, Topeka

November 2

Kansas Historical Foundation Annual Meeting • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

November 3

Historic Sites Board of Review Meeting • Kansas Historical Society, Topeka

November 8

Discover the Facts: Art at the Pawnee Indian Museum • Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site, Republic

November 10

Second Saturdays by the Grinter Stove • Grinter Place State Historic Site, Kansas City

November 12

State Holiday – Veteran's Day

November 22-23

State Holiday – Thanksgiving

December 1-2

Holiday Open House • Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site, Fairway

December 7-8

Christmas Past • Fort Hays State Historic Site, Hays

December 8

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

December 9

Holiday Benefit Dinner • Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site, Fairway

December 10

Christmas Traditions • Grinter Place State Historic Site, Kansas City

December 24-25

State Holiday – Christmas

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