

KANSAS HISTORY

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Henry J. Allen House, 255 North Roosevelt, Wichita, Kansas.

Famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright designed and supervised the construction of this L-shaped, two-story Prairie style house for Elsie and Henry J. Allen, Wichita editor and politician. Completed in 1919, the year Governor and Mrs. Allen took up temporary residence in Topeka, their Wichita home is the only Wright designed residence in Kansas. The house, which Wright considered one of his best, was also his last "Prairie House." It was added to the National Register of Historic Place in 1973.

Born on September 11, 1868, in Warren County, Pennsylvania, Henry Justin Allen moved with his family to a homestead in Clay County, Kansas, when he was two years old. Allen attended Baker University and then commenced a long career in journalism when he accepted a position with the Salina Republican—he subsequently edited newspapers in Ottawa (Herald) and Wichita (Beacon). Politically, Allen began life as a

conservative Republican but, like his friend and fellow Kansas newspaperman, William Allen White of Emporia, fell under the spell of the charismatic Theodore Roosevelt and converted to progressivism early in the twentieth century. Allen walked out of the Republican National Convention in 1912 when it rejected Roosevelt and followed the former president into the Progressive (or Bull Moose) Party. As a two-term Republican governor of Kansas (1919–1923), Allen is remembered for his attack on the Ku Klux Klan and his Court of Industrial Relations; and in the years to follow, he remained active in Kansas and national affairs, while engaging his journalism career and enjoying his lovely home in Wichita until a couple years before his death on January 17, 1950.

For more information on the Frank Lloyd Wright's Allen-Lambe House, see <http://home.onemain.com/~allenlam/index.html>.

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VIRGIL W. DEAN
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COVER: Christianity came to Kansas in 1541 with the arrival of Coronado and Father Juan de Padilla, as depicted in this John Stuart Curry state-house mural. A review essay on religion in Kansas begins on page 120. BACK COVER: The film *Picnic* is among many films reviewed in this issue's segment on Kansas cinema, beginning on page 104.

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From the moment he
hit town... she knew
it was just a
matter of time!

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents
WILLIAM HOLDEN
picnic
with
KIM NOVAK
BETTY FIELD · SUSAN STRASBERG · CLIFF ROBERTSON
AND
CO-STARRING
ROSALIND RUSSELL
AS ROSEMARY

Screen Play by Daniel Taradash - Based upon the play "PICNIC" by
Theatre Guild, Inc. and JOSHUA LOGAN
Produced on the steps by JOSHUA LOGAN - Produced by FRED KOHLMAR

CINEMASCOPE

TECHNICOLOR