New Oklahoma National Register Listing

The National Register of Historic Places is a catalogue of the buildings, sites, structures, districts, and objects whose hallowed ground and sturdy walls provide a glimpse into our past. These sites also may be selected for architectural and archaeological interests. The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is pleased to announce that the following properties were added to the National Register.

The Downtown Norman Historic District, located in Norman, Cleveland County, is significant for its association with historic commercial activities in Norman. As the core of the central business district, this area has been the center of commercial development in Norman from shortly after its founding in 1889 to the present. The vast majority of construction in the area was completed by 1960, with most commercial construction activity after this time taking the form of renovations and a small number of infill construction projects. The buildings in the Downtown Norman Historic District reflect the commercial growth of this community, growth spurred by agricultural prosperity, proximity to transportation routes, and the University of Oklahoma. The nomination was prepared by Kelli Gaston for the City of Norman.

The Heerwald site, located in Custer County, is significant as it represents a village of the incompletely understood Turkey Creek phase, A.D. 1200-1450. The presence of intact cultural deposits and subsurface features indicates this site has the potential to provide important information on the subsistence, trade, site structure, and other socioeconomic activities of groups in the Washita River basin of west-central Oklahoma six to eight hundred years ago. From the investigations of the site, researchers can glean additional information concerning diet, tool industry, town layout, and other aspects of Plains villager life leading up to the precontact coalescent or “protohistoric” period. The Heerwald site has the potential to answer many basic questions concerning the Turkey Creek phase and the lifestyle of these people during the thirteenth through early fifteenth centuries.

The Santa Fe Depot in Ponca City is significant for its association with rail transportation in Ponca City from its construction in 1911 until its remodeling at the end of World War II. It is also significant as a notable and unique example of a modified Mission/Colonial Revival-style combination passenger and freight depot. The nomination was prepared for the City of Ponca City by Kelli Gaston.

The Joyce House designed in 1960 by Herb Greene is a significant example of organic architecture. Located in the vicinity of Snyder, it is one of two resources design by Greene in Snyder and is the only example of a residence in both Snyder and Kiowa County designed by Herb Greene. The Joyce House, considered one of Greene’s finest works, is a collaborative effort between Greene and the owners. The Joyces discarded several designs by other architects and hired Greene as he understood the importance of designing a building to fit the site, a granite outcropping, and to accommodate the clients’ unusual collection of furnishings. A true representation of organic architecture, the natural environment served as the design framework for the Joyce House.

Additional documentation of the Fred and Adeline Drummond House was also accepted by the National Register. This submission included documentation on all of the buildings and structures on the site.

Listing in the National Register is an honorific designation that provides recognition, limited protection, and in some cases, financial incentives for these important properties. The SHPO identifies, evaluates, and nominates properties for this special designation.

For detailed information, contact Lynda Schwan Ozan at 405/522-4478 or email lozan@okhistory.org.
She was there to take care of the details and documents that formalized and tracked our complicated negotiations and agreements with senators and representatives, donors, partners, and other agency executives.

She was there as we pulled a rabbit out of a hat to create the Route 66 Museum in Clinton, our first successful experiment in creating a new business model for the OHS that blended public support with entrepreneurial initiative.

She was there when we started planning the Oklahoma History Center, a task that many people said was impossible given the high standards and ambitious plans set for the project. At each step of that process, Geneva took care of the details while Sandy Stratton, Robert Thomas, and the rest of our team sprinted ahead working with collections, architects, exhibit designers, and possible donors.

For twenty-two years Geneva Little has been a rock of consistency and high standards. In subtle ways, her quiet strength helped many of us keep our bearings while we charged ahead into project after project, sometimes creating chaos, but always adding something new to our arsenal of tools to collect, preserve, and share Oklahoma history.

For twenty-two years my habit has been to get to work a little before 8 a.m. For twenty-two years Geneva was already in the office and I started the day with, “Good morning Geneva.”

Yes, last week I said goodbye to a good friend. The memories of what we accomplished together will be with me for the rest of my life.

**New Members, March 2012**

*Indicates renewed membership at a higher level

**Director**

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Barr, Downey

**Fellow**

*Mr. and Mrs. Tom Evans, Enid

**Associate**

*Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Griffin, Oklahoma City

*Mr. and Mrs. Gary Buckles, Mustang

**Friend**

*Rita Aragon, Edmond

Stephen Hall, Oklahoma City

*John Griffin, New Bern, NC

*Dr. and Mrs. J. William Hood, Oklahoma City

*Sandra Olson, Waynoka

*Margaret Pickard, Oklahoma City

*Lorine Powers, Oklahoma City

**Family**

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Atkins, Mannford

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Bigler, Edmond

Charlene Capps, Yukon

Mr. and Mrs. Don Chesaier, Edmond

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clements, Oklahoma City

Ward Conaway, Edmond

Carolyn Couch and Joyce McKee, Edmond

Tiffany Crumrine, Oklahoma City

William Cunningham, Oklahoma City

Kathleen Earnest, Alva

*Nancy Fisher, Durango, CO

*James Folliart, Oklahoma City

Richard Ford, Edmond

Johnie Grimes, Idaho

Maryann Heard, Nichols Hills

*Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kelly, Altus

Candy Klump, Harrah

Mr. and Mrs. Sid Kramer, Edmond

Mary Larson and Mark McDonald, Stillwater

Gary Marrs, Oklahoma City

David McBride, Tulsa

Mr. and Mrs. David Millican, Edmond

Cheryl Moore, Edmond

*Robert Nanta, Broken Arrow

*Mr. and Mrs. Tom Peterman, Oklahoma City

Retha and Roy Reed, Stroud

Everett Rhoades, Nichols Hills

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Ripley, Pawnee

*Joyce Robinson, Oklahoma City

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Rogers, Oklahoma City

Mr. and Mrs. Al Ruble, Arcadia

Sandep Shah, Edmond

Dallas Simpson, Hesston, KS

Mr. and Mrs. Preston Turner, Fort Gibson

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Warnke, Elk City

Glenda Warren, Harrah

Teresa Wells, Altus

Kristi Wright, Yukon

Cynthia Zachary, Noble

By Bob L. Blackburn

Executive Director

Last week I said goodbye to a good friend who is retiring after working side-by-side with me over the past twenty-two years. That good friend is my executive assistant, Geneva Little.

Geneva has always been the model of professional conduct, hard work, and honesty. She also has been a big part of the progress here at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Geneva joined my executive team not long after I became deputy director for the agency in 1989. At the time, neither of us could anticipate what adventures lay ahead. Fortunately for me, she was always willing to charge ahead even as I overextended our resources, charged too many hills, and set our sights on goals just beyond our reach.

I knew I had Geneva as support at all times. She was there through three rounds of budget cuts, helping me assemble planning documents that allowed the agency to continue its progress while adjusting programs and staff levels to accomplish the goals set by the board of directors.

**Development News**

by Paul F. Lambert

We recently launched a planned giving promotion to encourage members to remember the OHS in their wills and estate planning. We started the effort by establishing a planned giving website, http://www.oklegacy.org, by creating a weekly OHS GiftLegacy newsletter, and by writing a letter to all Life Members and others who have been paying annual dues for twenty or more years. In preparing the letters I was reminded that we have some individuals who have been dues-paying members since the 1940s and one Life Member who joined in the 1930s!

In the letter we enclosed a brochure titled “Understanding Planned Giving.” As noted in the brochure, the “goal of planned giving is to help you plan your estate and charitable giving in a way that benefits you, your family, and charity.” The brochure outlines six types of planned giving options, with information on your goal, how it works, and your benefits for each of the options. We would be pleased to send one of these brochures to anyone who would like to receive one. Contact me at 405/522-5217 or plambert@okhistory.org and I will get one on its way to you.

We also have a brief on “Understanding Planned Gifts and their Benefits.” We enclosed a copy of this document in the letters that were sent to members whose memberships were due for renewal in April. We plan to do this each month for the memberships due that particular month. However, I would be happy to send that document to anyone who is interested. Also, I can send a PDF version of the brochure or the brief via email.

Planned gifts may be designed to go directly to benefit a particular program or activity or to endow such activities. I will be pleased to visit with you about your options, how your funds would be invested, and any other questions you may have.
MEETINGS

The Oklahoma Genealogical Society will hold its monthly meeting on May 7 at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City at 6 p.m. John Rapp will be lecturing on Quaker church records. He will explain the resources available for genealogy and why Quaker records can be particularly useful to researchers. Experienced researchers will be available at 5 p.m. before the meeting to answer questions. The Oklahoma Historical Society Research Library is open until 7:45 p.m. For further information, call 405/637-1907.

EVENTS

Visit the Scottish Heritage Festival and Highland Games at the Kirkpatrick Family Farm at 1001 Garth Brooks Boulevard in Yukon. From April 27 to 29, several activities will celebrate Scottish heritage. On Friday festival grounds open at 5 p.m. with a fire ceremony at 5:30 p.m. and a Celtic music concert (admission fee required) from 6:30 to 9 p.m. On Saturday the festival will occur from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Friday admission is free to the festival site. On Saturday and Sunday general admission is $5 and children under nine are free. There will be a kid friendly area with games, crafts, and activities. For further information, visit www.uscoscots.org.

The Oklahoma Renaissance Festival is held at the Castle of Muskogee at 3400 W. Fern Mountain Road. This Renaissance festival will feature a royal court, jousters, jesters, magicians, musicians, and minstrels. Delight your taste buds with the foods of the day, or browse through more than one hundred booths of handcrafted wares. A children's realm featuring games and hands-on demonstrations will also be available. Many visitors will attend the Oklahoma Renaissance Festival in costume, so get festive and show up in your best Renaissance attire or rent a costume on site. This event is for the entire family. The Renaissance Fair occurs every Saturday and Sunday from April 28 to May 27. For more information, call 918/687-3625. (travelok.com)

The annual Prague Kolache Festival on May 5 celebrates the Czech heritage of Prague with polka music, dancing, food, a parade, and entertainment. At 11 a.m. a large parade starts at 7th Street on Highway 99 and makes its way through downtown Prague ending at the grandstand on Highway 62. Floats, bands, horses, clowns, and more compose the two-hour parade. Additional entertainment is located one block east at a second grandstand. A large arts and craft show features jewelry, face painting, wood art, ceramics, yard art, and clothing. Visitors can feast on locally made smoked Czech sausages, kolache, and their favorite flavor of kolache. A Czech costume contest, plus folk and Czech dancers, add an array of color to the festival and highlight the heritage of Prague's first settlers. The crowning of the Kolache Festival Royalty will occur at 6 p.m. At 7 p.m. the new queen customarily starts off the famous polka street dance that continues until 10 p.m. The festival is from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. For more information, contact Sharon Maggard at 405/567-4866. (travelok.com)

The annual Italian Festival in McAlester will be held on Saturday and Sunday, May 12 to 20, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Southeast Expo Center and Fairgrounds. Join the many thousands of festivalgoers who enjoy delicious Italian food, live entertainment for all ages, and shopping among the hundreds of vendors, craft show booths, and fine art booths. Make sure to stop by the Italian Festival's food tent, where more than three thousand Italian dinners are served during this two-day festival. Festival organizers will have nine hundred pounds of meatballs and eight hundred pounds of Italian sausage ready to go, along with fresh spaghetti, salad, and garlic bread. The Italian Festival also features a wide array of activities designed exclusively for children including pony rides, Italian games, an obstacle course, and plenty of summertime amusements. Stick around for the carnival, midway games and rides, as well as live music and karaoke. For more information, contact Jerry Lynn Wilson at 918/420-3976. (travelok.com)

The annual May Daze Festival on May 18 and 19 marks the unofficial start to summer in Blanchard. This event, held downtown on Main Street, features great live entertainment, free karaoke, a carnival, delicious food, shopping, contests, and much more. At the May Daze Festival, browse through booths filled with crafts, art, and antiques, or simply enjoy the wide variety of live music on the main entertainment stage. From country and gospel to rock and roll and blues, there will be music for every ear. The event occurs from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information, contact Laura Callaham at 405/485-8787. (travelok.com)

Celebrate Bristow's Lebanese heritage on May 12 on Main Street with entertainment for the entire family. This festival highlights Bristow's unique roots with food, music, belly dancers, and more. Visitors to Tabouleh Fest will enjoy craft vendors, carnival rides, the Miss Tabouleh Pageant, a children's area, talent show, and a rodeo. Saturday's festivities kick off immediately following the annual Wildflower Run, one of the premier 5K runs in the state. Enjoy a wide variety of musical acts on the main entertainment stage, see which tabouleh recipe wins the top prize, or tour the only two tabouleh factories in Oklahoma. For more information, call 918/367-3324.

Do you want to have your organization's meeting, event, or exhibit featured in the "Around Oklahoma" section of the Mistletoe Leaves? The "Around Oklahoma" section features Oklahoma history and heritage-related activities or programs sponsored by entities other than the Oklahoma Historical Society. To submit news items, please contact Tabatha Toney, assistant editor, by email at ttoney@okhistory.org or mail at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, during the first week of the month before you wish a news items to appear. For example, if you wish a news item to appear in our June issue, please send it to our editors by the first week of May. Thank you for your submissions.
The annual Archaeology Day at the Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center is a day to celebrate the public opening of the only prehistoric American Indian archaeological site in Oklahoma. Throughout the day on May 12 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. archaeologists will look at collections to help identify artifacts, American Indian artists will show their wares, and several lectures will be given. Visitors to this event will also enjoy guided tours and reenactments. For more information, contact Dennis Peterson at 918/962-2062.

Archaeology Day at Spiro Mounds

Renovated Route 66 Museum plans grand opening ceremony

After seventeen years the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum has undergone a full renovation of its eight exhibit galleries—bringing the facility into the twenty-first century. The grand opening ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 26, at 2 p.m. during Clinton’s 2012 Route 66 Festival. Activities are scheduled throughout the day, including special Route 66 guests, music, free museum admission, and refreshments.

Following the designation of Route 66 as a scenic byway in 2007, the museum was awarded $120,000 in federal grant money from the National Scenic Byways Program and the Department of Transportation. The Friends of the Oklahoma Route 66 Museum, Inc., and the Oklahoma Historical Society collaborated and raised the remainder of the funds needed to complete the project.

The exhibits in the Route 66 Museum have not been updated since being built in 1995, and they were beginning to show signs of wear. Not wanting to change the thematic approach, the museum will continue to tell the story of Route 66 by decade but through modern technology. Patrons will have the opportunity to interact with the exhibits. For example, prerecorded conversations and the more common sounds of a diner will be overheard as patrons sit in the booths located in the museum’s diner exhibit. Kiosks will be strategically placed loaded with games, video excerpts, and other interactive activities for patrons of all ages. An embedded children’s tour is a welcome addition, as caricatures of popular models of classic cars will guide them through the exhibits.

The changes will create a more personal, hands-on Route 66 experience.

Throughout the day of the Grand Opening ceremony, people can tour the museum at no charge. Route 66 author Jim Ross, Route 66 photographer Shellee Graham, and Route 66 author/artist Jerry McClanahan will host a book signing of their new collaborative work, Route 66: Sightings. Prior to (and continued after the conclusion of) the ceremony, local musician Jared Deck will perform the rock and roll hits heard during the heyday of Route 66.

The actual ceremony, emceed by Jim Ross, will begin at 2 p.m., which will not interfere with Clinton’s Route 66 Festival. Besides the ribbon-cutting ceremony, the Oklahoma Route 66 Association will induct two more members into the Route 66 Hall of Fame. Following the ceremony, refreshments will be served to everyone.

The event is open to the public and is free of charge. If you have any questions or comments, please contact museum director Pat Smith via email at rt66mus@okhistory.org or via telephone at 580/323-7866. We look forward to celebrating this milestone with everybody!

Stories behind OHC monogrammed bricks needed

The monogrammed brick project on the grounds of the Oklahoma History Center (OHC) has been a wonderful success since its inception in 2000. Fifteen brick patios span the Red River Journey on the grounds, with each patio representing a unique heritage with each monogrammed brick. Now that we have all the bricks in place, we are seeking information from those who have purchased a brick, either for a family member or through an organization such as the Classen High School Alumni.

A computer-based survey has been created and is available on the Oklahoma Historical Society website, www.okhistory.org/brickhistory. This project is intended to showcase the heritage of the family names and organizations that pave the Red River Journey and gardens at the Oklahoma History Center. It is the OHC’s hope that all who are represented in the brick patios will share the history of their family or organization. The information gathered will be presented online through the Oklahoma Historical Society website, available to visitors of the facility as well as distant relatives. We have sent postcards with this information to our list of those who purchased bricks. If you purchased a monogrammed brick and did not receive a postcard, please contact the OHC right away. If you are unable to access the online form, you can also call us and provide your information over the phone.

The OHC will be collecting stories until September 1, 2012, so please do not delay! Ensure that the legacy of your brick is preserved by going online or calling us at www.okhistory.org/brickhistory or 405/216-6710 with your family heritage information.

Reenactors entertaining at the Cowboy Round-Up at the OHC on March 24 (photos by Jason Bondy).
Woody Crumbo 100th Birthday Celebration

On Tuesday, January 31, the Oklahoma History Center and Minisa Crumbo Halsey celebrated the 100th birthday of the renowned Citizen Potawatomi artist Woody Crumbo. The event included fourteen pieces of artwork by Crumbo including the American Indian Dancer series. In addition there were two never before seen Crumbo pieces on loan for the birthday celebration from a private collection.

A special program was held in the Chesapeake Events Center that included Dr. Bob Blackburn presenting a proclamation issued by Lt. Governor Todd Lamb to Minisa Crumbo Halsey, daughter of the late Woody Crumbo, recognizing the accomplishments and honors of Woody Crumbo during his lifetime. Special guest Minisa Crumbo Halsey gave a presentation and shared her thoughts on the birthday celebration, her father’s life, and his art.

Two of the Crumbo pieces on exhibit were Scalp Dancer and Dancing the Scalars. The Scalp Dance was coordinated by Jim Anquoe and the Red Stone Singers. Anquoe offered a brief explanation of Scalp Dance societies. The Scalp Dance and Victory Dance were led by women and children. A special Happy Birthday Round Dance in which the audience joined the dancers capped off a wonderful evening.

Birthday cake, artwork, and shared memories of Woody Crumbo by those who knew him or owned a piece of art by him made for a wonderful event. Dedicated to the sincere portrayal of American Indian thought and culture through his art, Crumbo continues to influence future generations.

Please reserve the date of June 21, 2012, for the opening of the new Woody Crumbo Centennial Exhibit, which will open at the Oklahoma History Center. Those interested in participating in the exhibit should contact Tara Damron by phone at 405/522-0784 or email tdamron@okhistory.org.

Pawnee Bill Ranch fishing clinic

On Thursday, May 24, at 10 a.m., the Pawnee Bill Ranch will host a free children’s fishing clinic. The clinic will be held at the children’s fishing pond and is being conducted by the Oklahoma Wildlife Department. Representatives from the Wildlife Department will present information on such topics as fish identification, knot-tying, fish cleaning and cooking, fishing tackle selection and use, water safety, outdoor ethics, and more. “Children are the future of fishing,” Damon Springer, aquatic education coordinator for the Wildlife Department, said. We need to get them involved in fishing any chance we get. These clinics give us the chance to introduce those young and old to the sport.” Children have to be able to cast a pole in order to attend. Poles will be provided. Participation is limited. To make reservations, call 918/762-2513.

Institutional

Le Flore County Historical Society, Poteau
Lincoln County Historical Society, Chandler
Talihina Public Library, Talihina
Wagoner City Public Library, Wagoner

Individual

Teresa Birdwell, Seminole
Angela Boydston, Muskogee
Anita Bryant, Antlers
Sonia Caldwell, Apache
James Campbell, Paula’s Valley
Francisco Caranza, Enid
Carol Duncan, Clinton
Howard Dunlap, Longdale
Martha Ewing, Stillwater
Mary Jo Finley, Panoa, TX
Amber Fox, Ada
Cathleen Frederick, Arlington, TX
Jacob Garner, Park Hill
Martin Gray, Lawton
Lynda Hagar, Stillwell
Eddie Hallum, Wewoka
Trenda Hendricks, Cyril
Robert Hennig, Wagoner
Chelsey Howland, Duncan
Bettye Ingram, Grandfield
James Jackson, Muskogee
Joseph Johnson, Broken Arrow
Amanda Johnston, Hulbert
Clarrie Jones, Pawhuska
Vickie Luster, Tishomingo
Aaron Maier, Broken Arrow
Jerry Martin, Enid
Edgar Morales, Woodward
Robin Morfeld, Tryon
Lizzie Olive, Stillwell
Sandra Poolaw, Anadarko
Linda Rippetoe, Carter
Rebecca Robertson, Stillwater
Jaimie Schumann, Stillwater
Stephanie Shafer, McAlester
Mrs. Skeeter Smallwood, Broken Arrow
Bryan Stark, Mead
Bryan Stephens, Burns Flat
Teresa Stopp, Tablequah
Robert Thomas III, Lawton
Kaleb Woodring, Hinton

Twenty-year members renew in March

listed below, with the date they joined the OHS, are people and organizations that, when they renewed their memberships in March, have been members twenty or more years. Their long-term loyalty is most sincerely appreciated!

P.G. Wilson, Edmond, March 1, 1967
Donovan Reichenberger, Alva, March 1, 1968
Barbara Kinzer, Jenks, January 1, 1971
Paul Fisher, Lawton, March 1, 1974
Michelin Hobbs, Oklahoma City, March 1, 1975
Franklin Eckhart, Edmond, February 1, 1977
Richard Wood, Bethany, March 1, 1977
John and Betty Minnett, Chickasha, December 1, 1979
Wayne and Liz Rogers, Oklahoma City, October 1, 1981
Marybelie Chase, Tulsa, March 1, 1982
Charles and Cheryl Saxon, Oklahoma City, March 1, 1983
Paul King, Fort Gibson, March 1, 1984
Sandra Olson, Waynoka, June 1, 1985
Martha Gene Merideth, Tulsa, March 14, 1986
Gilcrease Museum Library, Tulsa, March 20, 1986
Duran Historical Society, Durant, March 24, 1986
Robert and Judy McCormack, Indio, CA, March 25, 1986
John and June Stone, Oklahoma City, April 11, 1986
Bob Thompson, Ada, March 13, 1987
Tom and Marilyn Walker, Ardmore, March 27, 1987
Bishop Kelly High School Library, Tulsa, May 6, 1987
Carol King, Waynoka, December 2, 1987
Michael Lekson, Archbishop, March 7, 1988
David Keith Smith, Edmond, March 14, 1988
Wally Rogers, Claremore, February 24, 1989
Cimarron Heritage Center, Boise City, Mary 2, 1989
Jennifer Sparks, Fort Gibson, May 14, 1989
Gary and Sherry Strebel, Oklahoma City, February 8, 1990
Blackwell Public Library, Blackwell, February 14, 1990
Marvin Franklin, Oklahoma City, March 5, 1990
SUSAN LUGAR, Tulsa, May 11, 1990

New Members cont’d.
**Go With The Flow**

**Oklahoma’s 24th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference**

The cosponsors of Go with the Flow of Preservation: Oklahoma’s 24th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference invite you to join us June 6 to 8 in Tahlequah. Three concurrent tracks of sessions, special tours, and other events are detailed below.

**Conference Registration, Lodging, and Other Information**

Conference registration and sessions will be at the Tahlequah Armory Municipal Center, 101 North Water Avenue. To register for the conference and for lodging information, request a registration brochure from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) at 405/521-6249 or bharris@okhistory.org, or see the conference blog at http://okhistory.org/shpo/conference.htm; or register online at http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/conference.aspx. The deadline for registration at the “early bird” rate is May 30.

If you have questions about the conference program or registration, contact Melvena Heisch, deputy state historic preservation officer at 405/521-6249 or mheisch@okhistory.org. Also, visit http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/conference.htm or see the conference blog at http://okpreservationconference.wordpress.com.

**Conference cosponsors**

State Historic Preservation Office
Oklahoma Historical Society
Oklahoma Main Street Center, Oklahoma Department of Commerce
Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.
US Department of the Interior, National Park Service
Tahlequah Main Street Association
Cherokee Nation Tourism
City of Tahlequah
Friends of the Thompson House
Northeastern State University
Tahlequah Chamber of Commerce
Tahlequah City Historic Preservation Advisory Board
Tahlequah Tourism
United Keetoowah Band

**Plenary session speakers**

The plenary session (June 8) features two speakers who will discuss the economic impacts and overall community benefits of historic preservation and heritage tourism on individual communities and the state. They include:

- **Jay Hannah**: Jay Hannah is executive vice president of financial services for BancFirst in Oklahoma City. He is active in Cherokee Nation affairs, including his recent service as chairman of the Cherokee Nation Businesses, the enterprise arm of the tribe with responsibility for the development of the Nation’s cultural tourism and historic preservation mission, the focus of his presentation. He works closely with Preservation Oklahoma, Inc., to administer the BancFirst-funded “PlanFirst” Grant Program that supports local preservation efforts. Jay is a published author and frequent speaker on both the importance of history in our daily lives and the economic impact generated from preservation and cultural tourism.

- **Jason Roberts**: Jason Roberts is the president and founder of the Oak Cliff Transit Authority, and originator of the Better Block Project, the topic for his presentation; and cofounder of the Art Conspiracy and Bike Friendly Oak Cliff. In 2006 Jason formed the nonprofit organization Oak Cliff Transit Authority to revive the Dallas streetcar system and later spearheaded the city’s effort in garnering a $23 million TIGER grant from the Federal Transit Administration, US Department of Transportation, to help reintroduce a modern streetcar system to Dallas. In 2010 Jason organized a series of Better Block projects, taking blighted blocks with vacant properties in southern Dallas and converting them into temporary walkable districts with pop-up businesses, bike lanes, café seating, and landscaping. In 2011 the American Society of Landscape Architects presented a National Honor Award to Team Better Block for their work while heralding the Better Block project as “a 21st-century version of what the Chicago World’s Fair did in 1893.”

**SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE**

**Registration**

Tahlequah Armory Municipal Center, 101 North Water Avenue, Tahlequah. Opens at 12 p.m., Wednesday, June 6, and runs throughout the conference.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6**

1:45-3:15 p.m.

**Track A: Currents in Our History**

*Welcome to Tahlequah*

“The Trail of Tears and Tahlequah’s Establishment,” Jack D. Baker

“Northeastern’s Historic Halls,” Brad Agnew

“Downtown Tahlequah,” Beth Herrington and Kate Kelly

**Track B: Second Voyages for Historic Buildings**

*Preserving the Legacy of the Cherokee Nation*

“The Cherokee National Prison: A Restoration Case Study,” Travis Owens and Mike Sikes

“The Saline Courthouse and Springhouse Restoration Project,” Herb Fritz and Lisa Melchior

**Track C: Charting a Course for Sustainable Communities**

*Cultural Restoration of the Drake Allotment*

“Bristow Firestone Station Rehabilitation,” Robert B. Casaromo

“Northeastern’s Historic Halls,” Brad Agnew

**Track D: Charting a Course for Sustainable Communities**

“Riverside Farmhouse and the Legacy of the Cherokee Village of the Lower Tahlequah,” Tim D’Aquino

**THURSDAY, JUNE 7**

7-8:15 a.m.

**Eggs and Architects**

**Breakfast**

8:30-10 a.m.

**Track A: Currents in Our History**

*Tahlequah Area National Historic Landmarks*

“The Cherokee National Capitol and Its Preservation,” Travis Owens and Mike Sikes

“Sequoyah’s Cabin and the Murrell House,” Kathy Dickson

**Track B: Second Voyages for Historic Buildings**

*Tribal Heritage Preservation Case Studies*

“Awareness, Advocacy, and Preservation Success: siipekiwka awikii: Myamia Historic and Cultural Restoration of the Drake Allotment House,” Julie Olds and George Strack

“Peoria Indian School Restoration,” Frank Hecksher and Thomas Small

**Track C: Charting a Course for Sustainable Communities**

“Community Benefits from Private Investment: Smaller Project Case Studies”

“Casaromo Case Study: Ardmore’s Rawlins Furniture Rehabilitation,” Daniel Romo

“Bristow Firestone Station Rehabilitation,” Mike Kertok

**Track D: Charting a Course for Sustainable Communities**

“Building Quality Communities: Small Town Studio Student Teams and Local Design Issues,” Ron Frantz, Blair Humphreys, and Meagan Vandecker
10:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Cherokee Nation Bus Tour & Lunch

11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.
Historic Tahlequah Bus Tour & Lunch OR
Visit a Local Landmark with Lunch on Your Own.

1-1:30 p.m.
Regional Video Tour

1:45-3:15 p.m.

Track A: Currents in Our History
Preserving Eastern Oklahoma's African-American Heritage
“The Boley Historic District: A Future for Its Past,” Andre’ L. Head, Mike Kertok, and Gwendolyn Willis
“Rosenwald Schools in Oklahoma,” Allison Rosen

Track B: Second Voyages for Historic Buildings
Preservation Strategies for Special Places
“Tahlequah’s Thompson House: A Local Nonprofit and Its Preservation Success,” Beth Herrington
“Historic Landscape Planning and the Beck Mill Cultural Landscape,” Kimball Erdman and Derek Linn

Track C: Charting a Course for Sustainable Communities
The Next Generation of Preservation Leaders
“Involving Young People and Increasing Membership in Preservation Organizations,” Larry L. Justice
“An Oklahoma University Student’s Observations on Historic Preservation Issues in Cuba,” Melissa Santana

3:15-3:30 p.m. BREAK

3:30-5 p.m.
Track A: Currents in Our History
Northeastern Oklahoma’s Archaeology
“The Corps of Engineers and Its Identification and Treatment of Archeological Sites in Eastern Oklahoma,” Holly Smith and Dennis Peterson

Track B: Second Voyages for Historic Buildings
Community Benefits from Private Investment: Senior Housing in Historic Buildings
“Sapulpa’s Clayton-Wells Building Rehabilitation,” Laverne Hanson and Mike Sikes
“Muskogee’s Manhattan Building,” Mike Abernethie and Garrison Hassenhuff

Track C: Charting a Course for Sustainable Communities
How a Community’s Character Develops
“The Lager Landscape: Beer and Oklahoma’s Built Environment,” Paula Lupkin
“A Brief Look at Three of Tahlequah’s Historic Buildings,” Cynthia Savage

6:15-7:00 p.m.
Pre-banquet Reception/SHPO’s Annual Awards Banquet

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

8:30-10 a.m.
Track A: Currents in Our History
THPOs, PFPOs, and SHPOs
“Federal Agencies, Tribal Governments, and States as Preservation Partners,” Timothy G. Baugh
“The Osage Nation’s Historic Preservation Programs,” James Munkres

Track B: Second Voyages for Historic Buildings
Community Benefits from Private Investment: Redevelopment in Tulsa and Oklahoma City
“Tulsa’s Mayo Office Building: A Rehabilitation Case Study,” Jed Ballew and Chuck Wiggin
“Revitalizing Midtown OKC – One Certified Rehab Project at a Time,” Mark Krittenbrink and Catherine Montgomery

Track C: Charting a Course for Sustainable Communities
“What, Where, When, and Why,” Historic District Ordinance Workshop, Ramona Bartos (See About Special Events & Tours)

10-10:15 a.m. BREAK

10:15-11:45 a.m.
Track A: Currents in Our History
Tribal Heritage Preservation Case Studies
“The United Keetoowah Band—Preservation At Last!” Ernestine Berry
“Ross Cemetery: A Tribal/Community Partnership,” Al Herrin, Frankie Herrin, and Travis Owens

Track B: Second Voyages for Historic Buildings
Features of Historic Houses
“Kitchens and Bathrooms in Historic Houses,” Maryjo Meacham
“A Parade of a Parade of Homes: Mid-20th Century Houses in Oklahoma City,” Ron Frantz

Track C: Charting a Course for Sustainable Communities
Historic District Ordinance Workshop
10:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Cherokee Nation Bus Tour & Lunch

11:45 a.m.-2 p.m.
Historic Tahlequah Bus Tour & Lunch OR
Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.’s Annual Meeting and Luncheon OR
Visit a Local Landmark with Lunch on Your Own

1-1:30 p.m.
Regional Video Tour

2:30-3:30 p.m.
PLENARY SESSION

“The Better Block Project,” Jason Roberts
“Making the Connections: Heritage Preservation, Job Creation, and Economic Development,” Jay Hannah

SPECIAL EVENTS

Opening Reception: The Friends of the Thompson House, host for the opening reception, invites conference participants to enjoy a special welcome to Tahlequah at the Thompson House, one of Tahlequah’s landmarks listed in the National Register of Historic Places. (June 6)

Eggs & Architects: Architects and design professionals will want to attend this special Dutch Treat breakfast. So join Ron Frantz, associate professor and director of Small Town Studios, Institute for Quality Communities, University of Oklahoma, College of Architecture, for an informal discussion and breakfast at a popular downtown diner on Thursday at 7 a.m. For more information, contact Ron at rfrantz@ou.edu. (June 7, No Reservations Required)

Pre-Banquet Reception/SHPO’s Annual Awards Banquet: The SHPO invites you to mingle as we celebrate preservation accomplishments across the state. The SHPO will present the 2012 Citations of Merit and certificates for recent Oklahoma listings in the National Register of Historic Places during the banquet, which follows a reception hosted by the Tahlequah Main Street Association. (June 7, Reservations Required)

Historic District Commissions Workshop: Ramona Bartos, trainer/National Alliance for Preservation Commissions and deputy state historic preservation officer/North Carolina, will lead this half-day workshop for those interested in establishing historic district commissions. She will discuss what makes such commissions effective, where successful commissions are operating, when the time is right for adopting ordinances and creating commissions, and why strong local preservation programs benefit a community. (June 8)

Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.’s Annual Meeting and Luncheon: POK, Oklahoma’s statewide nonprofit organization, invites you to join them for their annual meeting and luncheon. Celebrate POK’s twentieth anniversary with a review of the organization’s activities and achievements, presentation of annual awards, and a briefing on current preservation issues. Historian William P. Corbett, chairman, Department of Social Sciences, Northeastern State University, will provide the luncheon address, “Vanishing Villages of Victory: The Prisoner of War Camp at Tonkawa.” POK members and non-members are welcome. (June 8, Reservations Required)

Plenary Session: Bob L. Blackburn, state historic preservation officer, will welcome participants and recognize conference co-sponsors and special guests. The session will feature Jay Hannah and Jason Roberts discussing the important economic and overall community benefits of historic preservation and heritage tourism. These presentations will summarize how going with the flow of preservation leads to economically and socially vibrant communities. (June 8)

TOURS:
Several tours will be available during the conference. Further information on these tours is pending and will be posted in late April on the SHPO website at http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/conference.htm.
Oklahoma National History Day

On May 2 and 3 students from across the state will converge on the Oklahoma History Center for this year’s annual National History Day (NHD) contest. Students have previously made their way through district NHD contests at universities statewide before progressing to the national contest in June in Maryland.

History Day is an exceptional program that encourages students to explore a historical subject related to an annual theme. Students’ research leads to imaginative exhibits, original performances, unique documentaries, websites, and historical papers to tell the human story. Participation in this project enables students to develop the skills historians use. Students become engaged and have fun with NHD because they choose a topic about which they want to learn.

This year NHD was awarded the prestigious 2011 National Humanities Medal by President Barack Obama at a White House ceremony on February 13 for being “a program that inspires in American students a passion for history.” The National Humanities Medals honor achievements in history, literature, education, and cultural policy. For the first time ever, a K-12 education program received the National Humanities Medal.

The 2012 state finals are scheduled for May 2 and 3 at the Oklahoma History Center. If you would like more information about History Day in Oklahoma, please contact Jason Harris at 405/522-0785 or by email at jharris@okhistory.org. If you are a teacher and you are interested in student participation requirements and how the program supports the new C3 Standards for the Social Studies, please feel free to call for additional information.

Style show and ice cream social at Fred Drummond Home

The Friends of the Drummond Home members would like to announce that on Saturday, June 9, they will be hosting a style show and ice cream social. Festivities will start at 1 and last until 4 p.m. The style show will be emceed by Valerie Duncan of the Territorial Museum in Guthrie. The site will feature clothing worn during the time 1900 to the mid-1950s to commemorate the years the Drummond family lived in the house. Reenactors will play the parts of the Drummond family members. Afterward, guests will take an unguided tour of the house where there will be volunteers available to answer questions. After the tour is time to eat samples of homemade ice cream and see who will win the ice cream-making contest! This year, first place prize will be $50, second place prize will be $25, and third place prize will be $20. Judges will be there to taste all the ice cream and to announce who the lucky winners will be. So if you would like to participate, please bring your ice cream and enter the contest!

The Drummond Home will be taking fifty reservation tickets this year for the event costing $10 each. Ticket sales will last until the end of May or until all fifty spots are filled. Tickets can be purchased at the Hominy Rexal drug store, Hominy Library, or the Fred Drummond Home. For more information, please call 918/885-2374.

The Drummond Home is located at 305 North Price in Hominy. Hours of operation are Wednesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with the first tour starting at 10 a.m. and on Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. with the last tour beginning at 4 p.m.