



OKLAHOMA NEWS



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2004 Most Endangered List Announced

On January 22 at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of History, the 2004 Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Places was announced. This list is a joint project of Preservation Oklahoma and the State Historic Preservation Office. Preservation Oklahoma President Bill Gumerson and Executive Director Heather Siefert presented the list to nearly 200 people, followed by a presentation from the National Trust for Historic Preservation President, Richard Moe.

Numerous endangered sites were represented by audience participants including: Chilocco Indian School, Rosenwald Hall, Tallchief House, Charles Page Childrens Home, and the Saline Courthouse. Many thanks to those who attended the event, as well as submitted nominations.

Oklahoma's 2004 Most Endangered Places list includes: *Chilocco Indian School, Kay County* - Chilocco was an Indian boarding school established in

1884 by the U.S. government to educate children of the nomadic tribes of western Oklahoma. The school soon expanded to include all Indian children, and grew from one building in 1884 to 35 buildings in 1907, enrollment reaching 1,200 students. Chilocco closed in June 1980 amid considerable opposition. Today, the buildings stand vacant.

*Galt-Franklin Home, Ardmore** - This neo-classical residence serves as a reminder of the historic significance of Edward Galt and Wirt Franklin, co-founders of the first petroleum company to buy leases and drill wells in the Healdton Oil Field - one of Oklahoma's richest petroleum discoveries. The private foundation who currently own the property has no preservation plans for the vacant property.

*Rosenwald Hall, Lima** - Established by Julius Rosenwald and Booker T. Washington, the Rosenwald Fund was created to improve the education for African Americans and to help construct more than 5,300 schools in the South. Completed in 1921, Rosenwald Hall is one of the few remaining Rosenwald funded schools in the historic all-black towns of Oklahoma. Although reuse opportunities for the building are numerous, there are no long-term plans for this former school.

Tallchief House, Fairfax - Overlooking Osage prairie, this is the childhood home of Maria Tallchief,



Left to Right: Cliff Hudson, Richard Moe, Heather Seifert, David Boren, Bill Gumerson and Daniel Carey at the 2004 Most Endangered Historic Properties Event

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Prima Ballerina and the 1953 "Woman of the Year." Together with her sister, Marjorie, she founded the Chicago City Ballet in 1981. Now vacant, this home stands as a symbol of the Osage Allotment Act, and to the accomplishments of Maria and Marjorie Tallchief.

Claremore Armory, Claremore - Constructed of cut, native stone, this WPA project is only one of the National Guard armories in Oklahoma. Although structurally sound, the adjacent property owner threatens the building with demolition for use as a parking lot.

Triangle Building, Pawhuska - The five-story triangle-shaped building changed the Pawhuska skyline upon its completion in 1913. The Triangle Building serves as the centerpiece to one of the least altered commercial districts in the State. Despite its great potential, the building faces demolition.

Charles Page Children's Home, Sand Springs - In 1908, oilman Charles Page purchased 160-acre site along the Arkansas River where he established the Sand Springs Home for orphans and widows. The Children's Home started in a tent with seven homeless children. In 1917, Page then built the present brick dormitory. Vacant, the property is in need of immediate attention

Provine Service Station, "Lucille's," Hydro* - Known as the "Mother of the Mother Road," Lucille Hamons delighted in the traveling visitors who frequented her establishment along Route 66. Now vacant, this unusual example of combination rural station and second-story residence awaits solid plans for renovation.

Saline Courthouse, Rose vicinity* - The last of nine district courthouses of the Cherokee Nation, the Saline District Courthouse was constructed between 1884 and 1889. Although located in a remote area, evidence shows a larger community existed here where the Courthouse was built. The main obstacles in protecting this historic site are its isolated location, lack of funding and rapid deterioration.

Wheelock Academy and Mission, Millerton* - After having served a decade as a Presbyterian school for Native American girls, Wheelock Academy became the first tribal academy established by the Choctaw Nation in 1832. The focal point of the Wheelock campus is Pushmataha Hall. Insufficient funds prevent this national landmark from reaching its potential.

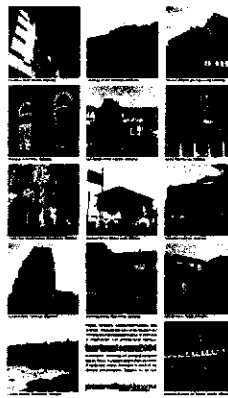
Coddoan Mounds, Southeastern Oklahoma - These mounds represent ceremonial places for the people that we historically recognized as the Caddo Tribe. Unfortunately, these mounds are also the focus for treasure seekers. It is estimated that 90% of Coddoan mounds have been vandalized to some extent.

Oklahoma County Courthouses, Statewide* - A historic county courthouse is more than a building for government functions. Standing with dignity and strength at the center of dozens of Oklahoma cities, these historic Courthouses serve as symbols of their communities. Abandonment, demolition, budget shortfalls and deferred maintenance threaten these one-of-a-kind landmarks.

Downtown Post Offices, Statewide - For years, downtown post offices have played an integral part in our daily lives. They are recognized as a community focal point contributing to its economy and social fabric. But like post offices across small-town America, many of Oklahoma's postal facilities are scheduled to be moved away from main street to a highway on the edge of town - putting the historic post office in danger of being abandoned.

Downtown Movie Theatres, Statewide - Neon lights from movie theatres once glowed in every downtown. These movie "palaces," with their sparkling marques and lavish interiors made every patron feel like kings and queens. Now many are being abandoned for the multiplex, leaving these downtown jewels at risk.

* Denotes previous year's listing



Courthouse on Hold in Ottawa County

By Cynthia Savage

Architectural Resources and Community Heritage Consulting

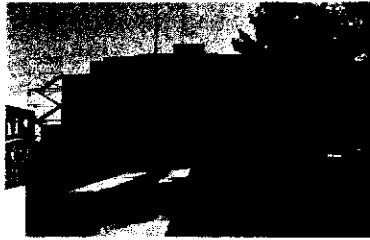
Like many counties in the new state of Oklahoma, Ottawa County utilized a rented courthouse and jail in the years immediately following statehood. By April 1916, construction on a new courthouse and jail, designed by the Oklahoma City architectural firm of Hair and Company, was underway with the majority of the county offices moving into the new facility by mid-March 1917. Thirty-four years later, voters in Ottawa County approved a major expansion to the building, which included converting all of the original, fireproof rooms into vaults and record storage. To expand the building, new office areas were added on all sides and a new exterior of white brick and concrete replaced the red brick and stone of the early building. Joseph Koberling of the Tulsa architectural firm Koberling, Brandborg and Roads, AIA, designed the courthouse expansion. Delayed due to financial reasons, construction work did not begin until September 1952 and was complete in May 1954.

Although the exterior of the building was profoundly altered in the 1950s project, because of money constraints due to skyrocketing construction costs during the period, the core interior of the building maintains many of the finishes and features of the 1916 courthouse. Most notable among these is the grand, central, marble staircase, which extends from the main entry on the ground floor to the entrance of the third floor courtroom. The fourth floor of the building, not greatly modified in the 1950s, was occupied by the county jail from 1917 until 1996 when a separate one-story facility was constructed immediately south of the courthouse.

The Ottawa County Courthouse, like other historic Oklahoma courthouses, is historically significant for its association with local government and politics. As the seat of county government, the courthouse is without paral-

lel in its importance as a political center and repository of county records. The Ottawa County Courthouse is also architecturally significant as an excellent example of a 1950s, Modern style county courthouse in Miami.

Following an inspection by the State Fire Marshall's Office last spring which noted twenty-four code violations, the Ottawa County Courthouse has been the center of controversy. Paramount among the safety violations was the lack of a smoke detection and emergency lighting systems, as well as the visible subsidence problem on the west side of the building. In November, local voters rejected a bond measure, which would have



paid for demolition of the existing building and construction of a new building on the historic courthouse block. Despite this, the County Commissioners are expected to bring the matter to a vote again.

In recognition of the property's historic significance and to ensure documentation of the property to professional standards, the Miami Main Street hired ARCH Consulting to prepare a National Register nomination for the building. The National Trust for Historic Preservation aided the Miami Main Street in funding the nomination. The nomination was submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office in December and scheduled for the next meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Committee, which occurred on January 18. The HPRC approved submitting the nomination to the Keeper of the Register in Washington, D.C. The Keeper, in turn, listed the building on the National Register on March 3, 2004.

As of early 2004, 52 courthouses in Oklahoma were listed on the National Register with several others eligible for the distinction. It is important to note that listing on the National Register will not prohibit demolition of the Ottawa County Courthouse. As

(continued on back cover)

Trust Diversity Application

Applications are now available for the National Preservation Conference 2004 Diversity Scholarship Program formerly known as the Emerging Preservation Leaders (EPL) Program. The Diversity Scholarship Program seeks to increase the diversity of participants at the National Preservation Conference and in the preservation movement. The program provides financial assistance (scholarships) to help community and cultural leaders, students and other professionals from diverse racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds participate in the National Preservation Conference.

Participants will gain knowledge and tools to strengthen their ability to preserve historic places and revitalize their communities through plenary, educational and field sessions, and discussion groups. Scholarship awards will pay for registration and accommodation costs. You can find and / or direct interested candidates to locate the application at the link below:

www.nthpconference.org/Generalinfo/#scholarships; or by e-mail at scholarships@nthp.org; the faxback service by dialing (202) 588-6444 document #9006; or by calling (843) 722-8552.

National Preservation Week 2004

Citizens in Oklahoma will join thousands of individuals around the country as part of a nationwide celebration of National Historic Preservation Week, May 3-9, 2004.

"New Frontiers in Preservation" is the theme of the weeklong celebration, which has been sponsored annually by the National Trust for Historic Preservation since 1971. As part of the weeklong celebration, citizens will celebrate with alumni reunions, career days, pageants, workshops, clean-up days, rallies, re-enactments, and home and garden tours.

If you would like to have your communities Preservation Week events reported in the next *Oklahoma News*, please mail a description and photographs to: Preservation Oklahoma, 405 N.W. 15th, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73103. Please be sure to include your name, telephone number and community.

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SAVED

Pawnee Bath House

This 1939 WPA Pawnee Bathhouse was closed from the late 1970's until it was re-opened in 2003. This three-tiered structure is one of the finest examples of WPA stonework in Oklahoma.



LOST

Redskin Theatre

Built in 1941, the Oklahoma City theatre was reduced to rubble to make room for a used-car lot.



THREATENED

Triangle Building

Preserve Pawhuska, the local non-profit organization and owner of the Triangle Building, will decide if the building is renovated or demolished this spring.



THREATENED

Meadow Gold Sign

The historic Meadow Gold sign, an important Route 66 icon, is currently located on property being developed for business expansion. Tulsa Foundation of Architecture is working diligently to rescue this piece of history and move it to an appropriate location. The new owners of the property on which the sign is located have graciously allowed TFA up to 90 days to move the sign. TFA has received guidance and financial assistance from the NPS Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program to help preserve the sign. Time is of the essence. Anyone interested in learning more about this project and how they can help should contact: TFA/Save the Sign, 2210-R South Main, Tulsa, OK 74114.



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Preservation Awards 2004 Nomination Form

Deadline is May 1, 2004

Preservation projects happen only because of the efforts of local citizens across our state. Preservation Oklahoma would like to applaud the work of these individuals and groups whose tenacity, courage and determination are the backbone of successful preservation projects across Oklahoma.

We are eager to compile our 2004 Preservation Awards recipients, and would like to solicit your assistance. Help us identify candidates whose work in historic preservation is noteworthy by returning the completed form below.

Two awards will be given: one for PUBLIC LEADERSHIP. The second award for ADVOCACY.

The Preservation Awards will be presented at Preservation Oklahoma's Annual Meeting, May 21, 2004 in Shawnee.

Name of Candidate: Individual or Group _____

Award Category (Public Leadership or Advocacy) _____

Candidate's address _____

Candidate's telephone or email _____

Name of person/group nominating candidate (optional) _____
(telephone) _____

In 150 words or less, please describe why you believe this candidate should receive this award. Please return this form and essay to: Preservation Oklahoma 405 N.W. 15th Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73106.

Need more information? Call 405-525-5325.

Wood Windows Workshop at Fort Reno

By Catherine Montgomery, AIA

Historic Preservation Architect, State Historic Preservation Office

On a daily basis I work with owners, contractors and design consultants that recognize one of the largest threats to a building's historic character is the loss of original building materials and features. Many complain that the craftsmen to do the right thing are non-existent.

Enter, stage right – an opportunity to build your own knowledgeable and qualified craftsperson and equip them with what it takes to keep historic fabric intact *and* increase the energy efficiency of the historic building at the same time!

This knowledgeable craftsperson could be you – or someone in your department, agency, non-profit volun-

teer force, or the contractor that you really like but just doesn't have the knowledge to do the work.

Heritage Conservation Network is partnering with Historic Fort Reno, Inc. and the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to hold a weeklong workshop from May 29 – June 5, 2004 during which preservation work will begin on the Guardhouse at Fort Reno.

The Guardhouse, built in 1891, is a limestone masonry load-bearing structure with wood windows. Workshop participants will undertake the repair and restoration of the Guardhouse's nearly one dozen wood windows in various states of deterioration.

Participants will learn how to set up a window repair workstation, document historic wood windows, disassemble them, assess their condition, evaluate repair strategies, make repairs, reassemble and finish them.

Simon Herbert, architectural conservator and preservation carpenter, will lead the workshop. Mr. Herbert has led numerous preservation workshops in the U.S, including Oklahoma at the Statewide Preservation Conferences.

As a partner in the workshop, the SHPO is sponsoring American Institute of Architects Continuing Education System Credits available to registered architects. The AIA has pre-approved the workshop for up to 56 HSW (Health Safety and Welfare) contact hours of continuing education credit.

Cost of the eight-day session is \$875. This fee includes lodging; breakfasts, lunches, insurance; workshop materials and expert instruction.

For those not interested in the lodging component of the workshop the cost is \$350 and includes lunches,

insurance, workshop materials and the same expert instruction. Participants will need to make their own transportation arrangements. Ft. Reno is located just outside of the town of El Reno, 30 miles west of Oklahoma City.

To learn more about Fort Reno's history and architectural conservator Simon Herbert visit the Heritage Conservation Network website at www.heritageconservation.net.

You can also register on-line at the same web address. Heritage Conservation Network encourages you to register by April 29, 2004.

If you find this project intriguing and are unable to attend, maybe you know someone else who can! Maybe you could sponsor someone to attend!

For additional information please contact the Heritage Conservation Network at workshops@heritageconservation.net or call (303) 444-0128.

If I can help you with more information about the program, give me a call at (405) 522-4479 or e-mail at catherinem@ok-history.mus.ok.us.

Windows of Opportunity for Preservation

Oklahoma's 16th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference is set for May 19-21 in historic downtown Shawnee. The program will again feature three concurrent tracks throughout the two and a half day event.

The featured topics include Track A: "Sacred Places and Special Spaces," Track B: "Investing in the Past for the Future," and Track C: "Streetscapes and Landscapes." Tours and other special events will give conference attendees the opportunity to share Shawnee's rich heritage and generous hospitality.

Kennedy Lawson Smith will deliver the conference keynote address on Thursday. She will identify windows of opportunity for preservation in your community as she presents "What's Next for Main Street."

Kennedy is one of the nation's fore-

most experts on commercial district revitalization.

After graduate school in architecture, she took a strange turn and became the downtown manager in Charlottesville, Virginia, where her efforts to understand why people did - or didn't - shop in downtown Charlottesville led her to create a retail market analysis methodology specifically for older commercial districts.

She joined the staff of the National Trust for Historic Preservation's National Main Street Center in 1985 and has served as its director since 1991.

She has written numerous articles on the economic dynamics of downtowns and is a popular international speaker on main street development issues.

In March 2002, *Fast Company* magazine named her to its first-ever list of "Fast 50 Champions of Innovation." She is a member of the board of directors of the League of Historic American Theaters.

Become a Member of the Statewide Preservation Network...

Preservation Oklahoma's mission is to foster the preservation of historic buildings and sites in Oklahoma through advocacy, education, technical and financial assistance.

As a member, you become a part of a vital network of individuals and organizations working to rebuild communities, strengthen neighborhoods, restore historic properties ... you become a part of Oklahoma's future.

To join, complete this form and send to: Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.
405 N.W. 15th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73103

Name _____

From (if gift) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

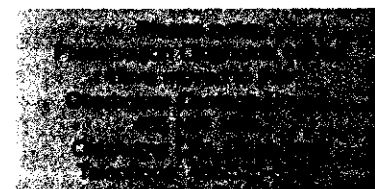
Phone _____

E-mail _____

- Partner - \$10,000 or more
- Benefactor - \$1,000 - \$9,999
- Patron - \$500 - \$999
- Sponsor - \$250 - \$499
- Associate - \$100 - \$249
- Friend - up to \$100

Preservation Oklahoma, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) organization. Membership contributions are tax deductible.

Join Preservation Oklahoma today.



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SHPO to Present June Workshops in Woodward

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will present its spring workshop series June 23-25 at the Josie Adams Cultural Center, 816 Main Street, Woodward. The sessions are designed for government agency representatives, preservation professionals, and concerned citizens. SHPO staff will discuss three of their basic programs, including the National Register of Historic Places, the Federal preservation tax credits program, and the Section 106 process for federal undertakings. The schedule is as follows:

June 23 - The Section 106 Review Process: Introduction and Overview (9:30am-noon) Addresses the National Historic Preservation Act requirement for Federal agencies and their applicants/designees to consult with the SHPO about possible effects of construction projects on archeological and historic resources.

June 23 - Determination of Eligibility under Section 106 (1:30pm-5pm) Explains how the SHPO determines which properties are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Section 106 process.

June 24 - Working with the National Register of Historic Places (9:30am-5pm) Provides full details about the National Register nomination process, the criteria, and the meaning of listing.

June 25 - Federal Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (9:30am-noon) Describes the federal investment tax credit program and application process.

June 25 - Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (1:30-5pm) Details the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and how they are applied in the SHPOs programs.

Registered architects will earn American Institute of Architects Continuing Education System (AIA/CES) Learning Units for attending the workshops. These sessions meet the AIA/CES Health, Safety, and Welfare (HSW) criteria. Contact Catherine Montgomery, Historic Preservation Architect, SHPO at 405/522-4479 or catherinem@ok-history.mus.ok.us about these credits. While the workshops are free and open to the public, space is limited. Please register with the SHPO by 5pm, Friday, June 18 if you wish to attend. Just contact Shea Otley at 405/521-6249 or sjotley@ok-history.mus.ok.us.

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The Mother Road:

A Retrospective of the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program in Oklahoma

By Jim Gabbert

Architectural Historian, State Historic Preservation Office

It began with a law back in 1990 that called for a study by the National Park Service of "the nationally significant highway known as Route 66." The results of that study resulted in another law that created the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program in 1999. This act had as its purpose "to preserve the cultural resources of the Route 66 corridor and to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance." Authorized at \$10,000,000 over 10 years, the program would have an impact on the eight states through which U.S. Highway 66 ran.

One of the first steps in the program was to invite interested parties to a planning meeting. Oklahoma City was the most central location and the logical choice for the kickoff meeting. In February 2000, Representatives from various state and federal agencies, along with private groups and associations with vested interests in the historic highway met to brainstorm and plan the future direction of the program.

Out of that meeting, and out of a subsequent meeting in Albuquerque, NM, the groundwork for a plan of action was set. With the first appropriated money, the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program, under the direction of Michael Taylor, offered grants to the states, to local organizations, and to property owners to conduct various preservation-related projects.

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office was awarded a grant to conduct a phased survey of the Route 66 corridor in Oklahoma. Building on a survey that was completed in 1984, this survey was conducted in two parts. The first part, completed by Oklahoma Route 66 Association experts Jim Ross and Kathy Anderson, was a thorough recordation of all of the Route 66 alignments. This roadbed and associated resources survey looked at the physical attributes of the road itself. It identified stretched of original pavement, bridges, culverts, and other such resources. Each was assessed for its eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. A second phase of the roadbed survey was conducted by David Keene and John Vogel. This aspect of the project resulted in the development of a management plan for the treatment and maintenance of the roadbed and associated resources.

Part two of the survey project was conducted by Dr. Michael Cassity and Heath Henry. This time, buildings and other resources along the corridor were evaluated. Due to the sheer number of buildings physically located on the many alignments of Route 66, the surveyors limited themselves to those properties that have direct ties to the road - gas stations, motels/tourist courts, campgrounds, tourist stops, diners, and other auto-related



resources. Again, each property was evaluated for its National Register eligibility. Dr. Cassity then produced an updated historic context for the entire project. The context was presented in the form of a Multiple Property Cover Document, a format that allows disparate resources along Route 66 to be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with minimal extra research and duplication of effort.

With the acceptance of the Multiple Property Cover Document by the National Register staff, the Oklahoma SHPO and the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program

entered into an agreement to produce 20 National Register nominations for Oklahoma Route 66 related properties. The survey documents were used to identify a range of eligible properties. Emphasis was given on nominating resources with a geographic spread and to have varying types of resources. Properties with a high owner interest were given priority. As a result, National Register documentation was prepared for a wide variety of properties, from a motel in Erick to a bridge in Oklahoma City to a stretch of the old Ozark Trail in Lincoln County and to a small, stone gas station outside of Vinita.

Another impressive project completed in Oklahoma was the rehabilitation of the Rock Café in Stroud. The owner of this iconic diner, Dawn

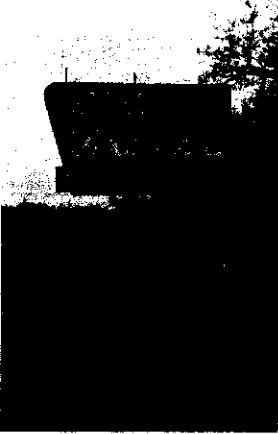
Welch, envisioned returning the interior of the restaurant to its original configuration. In addition, she wanted to restore the distinctive neon sign to working order. The results are nothing short of spectacular.

The Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program continues to offer small grants to interested parties along Route 66. Current projects include the restoration of historic signs in Tulsa and El Reno, the restoration of a Phillips 66 station in Chandler, and the rehabilitation of a building on Route 66 in Erick.

Oklahoma has more miles of Route 66 than any other state. The highway has firmly lodged itself in the mythology of America and continues to attract dreamers and travelers from around the globe to drive and experience its path through Americana. The Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program is doing its part to preserve the authenticity of that experience. Together, with the Oklahoma Historical Society's State Historic Preservation Office and the Oklahoma Route 66 Association, the groundwork for future preservation activity has been laid.

For information on the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program, call (505)988-6701 or visit their website at www.cr.nps.gov/rt66/

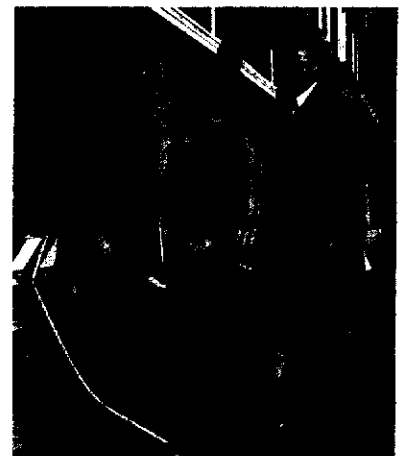
Grant applications and qualifications are posted online.



Rypkema Visits the Triangle

The National Trust for Historic Preservation sponsored a visit to Pawhuska's Triangle Building by Donovan Rypkema. Rypkema, nationally recognized real estate and economic development consultant, met with community leaders and the local non-profit Preserve Pawhuska as they struggle with the uncertain future of the Triangle Building. Rypkema praised the historic importance of this building, and emphasized the positive economic impact a restored Triangle Building would bring to their downtown.

In December 2003, Preserve Pawhuska voted to demolish the Triangle Building: the centerpiece of Downtown Pawhuska. With what seemed the imminent demise of this building, brought two potential builders/developers for the Triangle. Preserve Pawhuska is currently entertaining proposals from these buyers – and the building's fate is to be announced in April.



Donovan Rypkema, Heather Seifert from Preservation Oklahoma and Daniel Carey from the National Trust for Historic Preservation visiting the Triangle Building.

Upcoming Rosenwald School Conference

The National Trust will be holding a regional Rosenwald School Conference May 21-22, 2004 in Nashville, Tennessee.

The conference will be hosted by Fisk University and will feature educational sessions, exhibits and tours over the two-day period with ample time for networking with others involved in Rosenwald school preservation. Registration for the conference is free.

In 1917 Julius Rosenwald, President of Sears, Roebuck and Company, initiated a school building program that

was to have a dramatic impact on the face of the rural South and in the lives of its African-American residents. Through the Julius Rosenwald Foundation, more than 5,300 schools, shop buildings and teachers houses were built by, and for, African-Americans across the South and Southwest until the program was discontinued in 1932.

For more information contact Denise Alexander, denise_alexander@nthp.org, with the Southwest Office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

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Courthouse on Hold in Ottawa County

(continued from pg. 3) everyone is aware, the National Register places no restrictions on a property and the owner is allowed to do as they wish. If the County Commissioners were to utilize federal money in the project, listing on the National Register would complete the first step in the review process required by federal law.

The future of the Courthouse remains undecided. The County Commissioners still want to demolish the existing building and replace it with a larger building estimated to cost \$6.6 million. According to an engineering firm hired by the commissioners, \$5.4 million would bring the courthouse up to current safety standards. However, an interesting development occurred in early January when State Fire Marshall Robert Doke visited the building. Overturning some of the earlier requirements, Doke indicated at that time that less stringent codes were applicable for the his-

toric building and not all measures originally anticipated in the rehabilitation estimate were necessary.

Shortly after, Doke acknowledged that two-thirds to three-fourths of the county courthouses in Oklahoma are in violation of the state-mandated fire codes. From a preservation standpoint, the county courthouses in Oklahoma have been at risk from neglect and insensitive modifications for years. In recognition of the threats to these irreplaceable landmarks of democratic government, as a group, the courthouses have been included in POK's Most Endangered Places list since 2000. To provide a forum for discussion, the *Investing in the Past for the Future* track of the 2004 Statewide Preservation Conference will focus one full day on the issues these buildings face and some possible solutions. Check your conference program for specific topics and speakers on May 20 to learn more.