

PRESERVATION OKLAHOMA NEWS



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A joint project of the State Historic Preservation
Office and Preservation Oklahoma

2011 Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Places



First Presbyterian Church, Atoka (left) and Archeological Sites Statewide/Rose Hill Plantation, Hugo vicinity (right), both on this year's endangered list. Photos: POK (left) and OK SHPO (right).



On March 10, 2011, Preservation Oklahoma, Inc. unveiled the 18th annual Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Places list at a reception and silent auction held on Oklahoma City's celebrated Automobile Alley. The Most Endangered Places list provides a snapshot of threatened individual landmarks and larger preservation issues in Oklahoma. Since 1993, this yearly list has helped raise awareness of Oklahoma's vast historic assets and highlighted those facing imminent peril without adequate attention, funding, or both. Simply appearing on the list does not guarantee the preservation of these sites, but it does provide communities with a useful tool for focusing their energy and resources in their defense. Oklahoma's Most Endangered Places for 2011 include:

First Presbyterian Church of Atoka Atoka

Completed in 1913, the First Presbyterian Church of Atoka is notable for its architecture and its construction by locally prominent builders. First Presbyterian ceased operations in the early 1990s and its once well-maintained condition has begun to show signs of neglect.

Archaeological Resources Statewide

Focus on Looting and Vandalism

Oklahoma offers thousands of prehistoric and historic resources. Looting and vandalism represent significant threats to archeological sites, evidenced by the damage inflicted upon the grounds of the Rose Hill Plantation. For information on reporting vandalism, contact the OAS or access the "Guidebook to Reporting Vandalism at Archaeological Sites" at www.ou.edu/cas/archsur/crm.htm.

Health Facilities Statewide

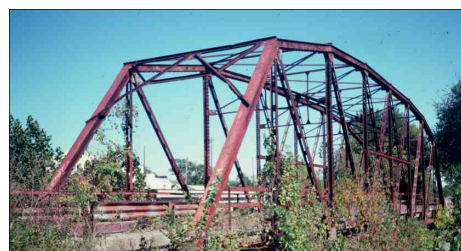
Community hospitals provided care for countless individuals and deserve recognition and protection for their history. Examples of former hospitals in need of care are the Eastern State Hospital, Vinita, and Morton Health Center, Tulsa.



Morton Health Center, Tulsa. Photo: Justin Moore

Route 66 Resources Statewide *Focus on Bridges*

Historic bridges along Route 66 face a dangerous predicament. Originally constructed for 1920s and 1930s traffic, these bridges struggle to accommodate modern traffic. Additionally, some face demolition by neglect when stretches of road become closed to traffic and are no



Bridge over Rock Creek, Sapulpa. Photo: Justin Moore

longer in use. One example is the Route 66 bridge that crosses Rock Creek, southwest of Sapulpa.

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Preservation Conference Preview

The cosponsors of *Wide Open for Preservation: Oklahoma's 23rd Annual Statewide Preservation Conference* invite you to join us June 8-10 in Guymon. More than forty speakers will address Preservation in the Wide Open Spaces, Old is the New Green, and the Local Preservation Environment. Several guest speakers from across the nation will contribute their expertise on these topics.

J. Paul Loether, Chief, National Historic Landmarks/National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, Washington, D.C., will deliver the Plenary Session presentation on Friday afternoon, June 10. He will discuss historic landscapes, the importance of historic setting, and the challenges in balancing our needs for alternative energy sources and protection of historic places. His national perspective will help guide Oklahoma's preservation community as we focus on this complex new issue.

Ken Culp, III, Principal Specialist for Volunteerism, Department of 4-H Youth Development, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky, is back by popular demand. As with his sessions during Oklahoma's 2009 statewide preservation conference, participants are in for a special treat on Wednesday afternoon, June 8. You will laugh, learn, and laugh some more during Culp's two workshop sessions. Main Street organizations, preservation nonprofits, and others will not want to miss "Volunteer Recruitment & Retention: Increasing Volunteer Efforts" or "Diagnosing Volunteer Burnout: Treatment for a Cure."

The fascinating history of the Oklahoma Panhandle and the Great Plains is represented in archeological sites, buildings,

and landscapes. In conference track *Preservation in the Wide Open Spaces* participants will learn about some of these important places and their preservation.

Donald Blakeslee, Archeologist, Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas, will speak about his work at the Coronado Archeological Site. Faye Gaines, Chairman, Preservation Committee, Santa Fe Trail Association, Springer, New Mexico, and Jeff Trotman, Kansas Director, Santa Fe Trail Association, Ulysses, Kansas, will discuss the history of the Santa Fe Trail and efforts to protect and interpret it and its related resources.

Suzanne Kelley, President of Preservation North Dakota, and Tom Isern, Professor of History and University Distinguished Professor, North Dakota State University, will share the history of the Hutmacher Farmstead and the extraordinary preservation work taking place there. Isern is a specialist in the history of the Great Plains and a long-time activist in state preservation efforts. He and Kelley lead study tours and restoration expeditions to the historic farmstead and other earth-building sites in North Dakota.

Jim Steely, Senior Historical Consultant, SWCA Environmental Consultants, Phoenix, Arizona, is a recognized scholar on the Civilian Conservation Corps, and he will speak about CCC projects in the Texas Panhandle.

Richard B. Wright, Associate Professor of Art History, College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Fine and Performing Arts, Texas A&M International University, Laredo, Texas, will talk about the architectural significance of the Texas County Courthouse in Guymon.

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Are you a member of Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.?

Not everyone who receives this newsletter is a member! Can't remember the last time you paid your dues? Haven't received an invitation in the mail from POK in a while? Please call to confirm your status at 405/525-5325, or email preservationok@preservationok.org.

You can rejoin at any time by mailing in the membership card on the back page of this newsletter, or at www.preservationok.org. Don't miss all the fun, the news, and the members-only opportunities—renew your membership in Preservation Oklahoma, Inc. today!

Preservation Oklahoma News, the newsletter of Oklahoma's historic preservation community, is published quarterly as a joint project of Preservation Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office.

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This program receives Federal financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or age in its federally assisted programs. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240.

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Historic Grain Elevators Statewide

In numerous agricultural communities, grain elevators represented the commerce and enterprise of bucolic Oklahoma. Changes to the agricultural economy and localized downturns have led to the neglect and imminent loss of many of these pastoral structures.



Grain Elevators/Morrison Grain. Photo: Justin Moore

Hopewell Baptist Church Edmond

Designed by Bruce Goff and constructed through the volunteer efforts of the congregation, the iconic Hopewell Baptist Church was once featured by TIME magazine. Vacated since the late 1980s, the church faces an estimated \$2 million in rehabilitation costs.



Hopewell Baptist Church. Photo: Justin Moore

Midland Valley Office Building Muskogee

The Midland Valley Railroad was a significant contributor to the early development of Oklahoma's oil industry and Muskogee represented the first Midland Valley station in the



Midland Valley Office Building.
Photo: Jonita Mullins

state. The Midland Valley depot in Muskogee recently underwent rehabilitation to house the Three Rivers Museum, but the office building requires similar attention.

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Conference Preview continued from Page 2

Historic preservation equals sustainability, and there is no doubt that historic preservation was "green" before "green" was cool. In *Old is the New Green*, you will hear Antonio Aguilar, Architect, Technical Preservation Services, National Park Service, Washington, D.C., who reviews proposed rehabilitation projects from Oklahoma for the federal tax credits, discuss the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards* and how they relate to the "green" movement. Then, Philip Thomason, Thomason & Associates, Preservation Planners, Nashville, Tennessee, will discuss his work as a consultant to the City of Oklahoma City as they revise their local historic district design guidelines to more clearly reflect how preservation equals sustainability.

If you want to learn more about how to build and strengthen a local historic preservation program, then you should plan to attend sessions in the track entitled *The Local Preservation Environment*. Special guest speakers on this topic include Sally Still Abbe, GIS Manager, City of Lubbock Planning Department, Lubbock, Texas, who will discuss preservation planning efforts in Lubbock and the city's participation in the Texas Certified Local Governments (CLG) Program. Dan Corson, Intergovernmental Services Director, State His-

toric Preservation Office, Colorado Historical Society, Denver, Colorado, will discuss local historic preservation initiatives through Colorado's CLG Program. Elmer J. Martinez, Community Development Director, City of Las Vegas, Las Vegas, New Mexico, will share his city's experiences in developing their historic preservation program and their participation in the New Mexico CLG Program.

Conference cosponsors include the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society; Oklahoma Main Street Center, Oklahoma Department of Commerce; Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.; Oklahoma Sustainability Network; Main Street Guymon; City of Guymon, Convention and Tourism; Guymon Chamber of Commerce; Pioneer Showcase; and Guymon Chapter, No Man's Land Historical Society.

Watch your mail for the conference program and registration brochure in the next few weeks. If you may have questions, contact Melvena Heisch, Deputy SHPO, at 405/522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org or Melyn Johnson, Main Street Guymon (director@mainstreetguymon.com or 580/338-6246). Follow conference developments at www.okhistory.org/shpo/conference.htm or see the conference blog at <http://okpreservationconference.wordpress.com>.

Historic Preservation Expo: Supporting Sustainable, Livable, Communities

Historic preservation was "green" before "green" was cool. Not only is it good for the environment, but historic preservation results in quality living space and exciting places for work and play, protects your property values, ensures that your community retains its unique character, attracts heritage tourism dollars, provides tax incentives for redevelopment; and connects our past with the future.

Whether you just want to do the right kind of maintenance on your historic or older house, are rehabilitating a commercial building, need to comply with local design guidelines, or must satisfy requirements of a federal grant program, you are engaged in historic preservation. The *Historic Preservation EXPO* has something for you. Find a source for wood window repair/replacement, talk to design professionals, learn about making your house or commercial building more energy efficient, and much, much more.

The *Historic Preservation EXPO* will be held on August 19th and 20th at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City. It is sponsored by the City of Oklahoma City; the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society;

Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.; and the Oklahoma Main Street Center, Oklahoma Department of Commerce. The event will be packaged and delivered in four ways: 1) exhibit booths for preservation-related products/services vendors, 2) sustainable preservation lecture/round table presentations, 3) live demonstrations, and 4) design competition focusing on sustainable preservation in a charette format. The planning stage of the event is ramping up; sponsorship opportunities and booth rentals are now available.

For more information about sponsorship opportunities, featuring your business with an exhibit booth, or attending, contact Preservation Oklahoma at 405/525-5325 or preservationok@preservationok.org.



SHPO Announces May Workshops

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce its May workshop series to be held May 4-6 in the Red Bud Room, Elks Hotel (connected to Victor Bldg.), 208 W. Harrison, Guthrie.

The workshops are free and open to the public, but we ask that you register by 5pm, Wednesday, April 27. Space is limited and will be available on a first-come basis. To register, contact Betty Harris at bharris@okhistory.org or 405/521-6249. You may also register online at www.okhistory.org/shpo/workshops.php.

Registered architects who attend these workshops can qualify for American Institute of Architects Continuing Education System (AIA/CES) learning units. Simply register for the workshop(s). After the workshops, self-report your attendance at <http://www.aia.org/education/index.htm>. The SHPO will provide written learning objectives and a certificate of attendance the week of May 9th. If you have questions about any of the workshops, contact Melvena Heisch, Deputy SHPO, at 405/522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org.

Workshop Schedule and Descriptions

May 4 (9:30-12:00 noon) - The Section 106 Review Process: Introduction and Overview

The workshop provides the basics about Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and how the process works in Oklahoma. The workshop is designed as a stand-alone session and a companion to Determination of Eligibility under Section 106. Participants should also consider attending the Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.

May 5 (9:30am-4:30pm) - Working with the National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is the foundation of the SHPO's programs, and a basic understanding of the Register is essential for those involved in historic preservation at all levels of government and in the private sector. The workshop provides detailed information about National Register criteria, property owners' rights in the nomination process, tips for preparing nominations, and more.

May 6 (9:30am-12:00noon) - Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

Participants will learn about the federal and state investment tax credits for certified rehabilitation of a certified historic structure. A detailed discussion of the Historic Preservation Certification Application, Parts 1, 2, and 3 will guide owners and developers in successfully preparing the information needed for the State Historic Preservation Office to review the project and for the National Park Service to certify it. This session is designed as a stand-alone workshop or as a companion to the Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.

May 6 (1:30pm-4:30pm) - The Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings

The half-day workshop features a thorough discussion of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitation. Generally referred to as The Standards, these common-sense principles are widely used in the historic preservation field. Whether you are involved in a rehabilitation project for the 20% federal and 20% state tax credits, planning a rehabilitation project funded with federal assistance, serving on a local historic preservation commission, or just wanting to know the best approach to rehabilitate your historic private home, you will find this session invaluable. It is designed as a stand-alone workshop and as a companion to Federal and State Tax Incentives for Rehabilitation.

Guymon Main Street Director Connects the Dots

By Melyn Johnson

Editor's Note: The following *On the Bricks* column by Melyn Johnson, Project Director, Main Street Guymon, was published in *The Guymon Daily Herald* on February 3, 2011, and is reprinted with permission of the author and the publisher.

Just recently in conversation someone told me that they purchased their insurance online. Ouch. That really hurt. Biting my tongue is what hurt. The inclination for me to pull out the soap box, climb atop the box, and deliver a personal opinion was strong. But I maintained self-control. Until now.

Online? Really? The very thought gives me heartburn.

Saturday my grandson (and many other people's children and grandchildren) played two games on the Kid's Inc. league. Not a single one of those teams had an online business on the shirts.

The day before, the Ag Appreciation Day was held, an education opportunity for our farmers and ranchers (including a free meal). There were several local insurance agencies that had paid the money for booths and were present. None of them were online agencies.

On Saturday at the Women in Ag conference, there was Phil and Dianna Brown in attendance. No online companies that I saw.

Let's let the imagination run to that tree branch falling on your roof and causing damage to your house and car. It's easy to just call up Phil and Dianna (or Warner and Roger McKinnon or Ken Lane). Good luck on calling that online group. And don't whine to me when you find out how it's working for you.

Whew. I think the soap box can be put up now on that subject.

Wait, though. Before putting it up let me address shopping in your hometown.

Every morning when you wake up you want water to flow out of your faucet. You want your toilet to flush by simply pulling down that handle. You want your streets paved, your trash picked up, your street light giving off light so you don't trip getting to your car. You want a swimming pool where you kids can go all day for just a little bit of money. You want a park with playground equipment for them to play or have their birthday party. You want a golf course so your spouse can be gone for a few hours on the weekend. You decide to do genealogy research and begin using the public library and want research materials. You want. You want. You want.

Don't act like you don't know where the money comes from to provide all of that. A minute part of it is the fees,

but in our Oklahoma towns it is primarily sales tax dollars.

How would you like to call the City Manager and tell him about a pot hole on your street that you want fixed and him say, "Sorry, our street crew is working on streets in Amarillo today." Take a deep breath. You brought it on yourself.

When you choose where to buy your groceries think about who provided those buns free at your last Sunday School picnic. Think about who bought ads in your school year-book so your kids could have an affordable memory of their school years.

When you're buying a car, try to remember if the place you're buying your car (or washer or dryer or furniture) bought an animal at the stock show. Or if they donated to your prom party. Or bought the scoreboard at your school. We might even remember who buys the radio time so you can listen to area teams in the playoffs.

Now, don't be throwing out exceptions as excuses. Sure, it's a fact you can't get everything in your hometown. That's not what we're talking about. As a point, to heck with any excuses at all. Just thoughts to ponder. You say you save some money ... but I wonder just how much of that \$3 gasoline it takes to save those dollars. And how many hours it took you to drive to and from that other town. When there are medical emergencies and traumatic events, who steps up and helps out? Hometown zip codes is my guess.

Who buys the tickets to your school and community plays? Who buys the FFA top hands? Who pays for all that expensive candy and other stuff your golf team is selling as a fund raiser? It's always people who own or work for people who are in business in or near your hometown.

It's time to stop going into places just for a handout. Think about where you're going and why. There is nothing wrong with going to other towns, no. But consider what you expect from local merchants and be economically smart. Sometimes when you're saving a dollar, you could lose much more.

And while you're thinking, tell those folks that do provide jobs in your hometown, that do pay the taxes that helps keep water running through your faucet, that do hold up your community events ... tell them thank you. I appreciate our community supporters every time you give to our kids, our school, our community events, our civic groups. You're what keeps us alive.

Time to put the soap box away. See you on the bricks.

Thanks,

Melyn Johnson

A Special Invitation!

Preservation Awards 2011

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 2011 Preservation Award 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.

Four awards will be given:

- 1) Rural Private Sector
- 2) Rural Public Sector
- 3) Urban Private Sector
- 4) Urban Public Sector

The Preservation Awards will be presented at Preservation Oklahoma's Annual Luncheon held at the Statewide Preservation Conference in Guymon on June 10, 2011.

Name of Candidate _____

Award Category _____

Candidate's Address _____

Candidate's Phone and Email _____

Name of person/group nominating candidate: _____

Nominator's Address _____

Nominator's phone and email _____

On a separate piece of paper, in 500 words or less, please describe why you believe this candidate should receive this award. Feel free to attach additional information and photos, and letters of recommendation.

Please return this form to:

Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.

405 NW 15th Street

Oklahoma City, OK 73103

For more information, contact Preservation Oklahoma at preservationok@preservationok.org.

Deadline May 1, 2011

POK State Capitol Day

On April 26th, Preservation Oklahoma will spend the day at the State Capitol. Members of Preservation Oklahoma and supporters of historic preservation are invited to stop by and visit with staff and board members as we take time to visit with legislators about the importance of historic preservation in Oklahoma.

Preservation Oklahoma and the preservation community has worked diligently to promote preservation-oriented policies across the state of Oklahoma, including the adoption of state tax credits mirroring federal credits for certified rehabilitation of historic buildings in 2005, and the protec-

tion of these same credits from proposed cuts last year.

It is important for the voices of Oklahomans to be heard in support of historic preservation as a guiding concept for creating the sustainable, economically viable, and culturally rich communities that Oklahoma needs. Preservation Oklahoma hopes, with the day at the Capitol, to increase awareness of the many benefits that historic preservation brings to our state. For more information about POK State Capitol Day, please contact Preservation Oklahoma at 405/525-5325 or at preservationok@preservationok.org.

Upcoming Workshops on Gravestones, Route 66 Preservation

Gravestone Conservation Workshop

On May 6-7, Preservation Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation Cultural Tourism, and The Saline Preservation Association will host a workshop on gravestone and cemetery monument conservation. Jonathan Appell, a member of the Preservation Trades Network, will lead hands-on, interactive training for participants, covering topics including how to re-set stones, repair to fragmented stones, appropriate repair materials, use of infill material, and methods for repointing and cleaning masonry.

Mr. Appell is a professional gravestone and masonry conservation specialist with expertise in cemetery preservation planning. He has performed gravestone preservation and planning projects on many historically significant cemeteries throughout the United States, including Congressional Cemetery in Washington DC; The Granary in Boston, MA; Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in Tarrytown, NY; The First Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Greensboro, NC; and The New Haven Crypt in New Haven, CT.

The first day of the workshop will be at the Saline Courthouse in Rose, Oklahoma, and the second day will be at

Ross Cemetery in Park Hill. Please contact Preservation Oklahoma or visit www.preservationok.org for more information and to register for the workshop; space and supplies are limited.

Route 66 Workshop

Preservation Oklahoma, Inc. and the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office will host a workshop entitled *Making the Most of the Mother Road: How to Care for (and Benefit from) Your Route 66 Resources*, sponsored by SONIC, America's Drive-In. The workshops will focus on tools and resources for the preservation, revitalization, and promotion of Route 66 resources and communities. It will also introduce other non-Route 66 specific resources for individual property owners, groups, and communities to utilize as they care for their historic places.

The workshop will be held May 14 in Chandler at the Route 66 Interpretive Center in the restored Old Armory Building on Route 66. While the focus is on Route 66 communities, anyone interested is welcome to attend! For more information about how to register for the workshops, please contact Preservation Oklahoma at 405/525-5325 or email preservationok@preservationok.org or visit www.preservationok.org.



Saline Courthouse in Rose, OK.
Photo: Preservation Oklahoma



Route 66 Interpretive Center in Chandler, OK
Photo: Route 66 Association

NPS Approves Muscogee (Creek) Nation as THPO

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) provides that tribal governments may elect to assume State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) duties on their tribal trust lands. Tribes interested in establishing a Tribal Historic Preservation Office under Section 101(d)(2) of the National Historic Preservation Act must submit a formal application to the National Park Service (NPS) for review and approval to obtain formal Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) status. Eleven tribal governments in Oklahoma have now requested and received NPS approval of their applications under this program.

On March 14th, the director of NPS announced formal approval of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's application. The Tribe's THPO is Mr. Ted Isham, and he can be reached at Muscogee Creek Nation, Cultural Preservation Office, PO

Box 580; Okmulgee, OK 74447; tel: 918-732-7731; email: tisham@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Other Oklahoma tribes with formal THPO status include the Absentee Shawnee of Oklahoma, Caddo Tribe of Oklahoma, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Comanche Nation, Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma, and Wyandotte Nation.

For a complete list of tribes that have assumed SHPO functions nationwide, visit the NPS website at http://grants.cr.nps.gov/THPO_Review/index.cfm. For detailed information about the program, contact James E. Bird, Chief, Tribal Historic Preservation Program, National Park Service at 202/354-1837 or james.bird@nps.gov.

A Few Left Standing

By Lynda Ramsey

Editor's Note: Lynda Ramsey will speak about her historic barns research during the statewide preservation conference in Guymon. Brad Bays, Oklahoma State University will also speak about the historic barns surveys he is doing in partnership with the State Historic Preservation Office.

The wooden relic is surrounded by crusty red earth and sparse yellow grasses intermingled with patches of green winter wheat. The barn once housed the farmers' livestock, equipment and crops. The farmer kept his barn active with working sounds of cattle tossing hay and butting heads, the creaks of wagon wheels moving across the dirt drive carrying fresh hay, and the lively snorts of work horses. The aroma of hay mixed with manure, and the crusted earth clinging to wagon wheels filled the barn. During those early years the entire family participated in the farming operation and their barn protected their prosperity. Now the wooden relic stands forlorn and empty. Open planks in the wood siding and the metal sheeting lift, creating soft whistles as the wind forces its way around and through porous openings. Red whirlwinds of dirt sift down the vacant drive through. Stalls are now dark and vacant. Only the scurry of mice and flutter of the barn owl's wings are heard as he escapes by flight through the hayloft's door. Aged clumps of hay are scattered throughout the barn's haymow and forgotten grain has found its way to the corners of each granary. Only a few of these archaic structures are left standing on Oklahoma's countryside and remembered for their historic significance to Oklahoma agriculture.

Alice Baker McKeever's family is the sixth generation of Bakers living in the 1900 farmhouse where her husband's grandfather, Charles DeLafayette Baker staked his 160 acres west of Kingfisher during the Land Run held April 19, 1892. The barn was built in 1910 as a multipurpose structure that stored wheat, oats, corn, maize, and alfalfa hay. Shelter was provided to the dairy cattle and the horse stalls

still show where the workhorses gnawed on their hay feeders and grain boxes. Alice Baker McKeever says, "I would like to revitalize the family barn into a barn home, where family can stay while they visit." The Baker homestead has been a Centennial Farm since 1993.



Charles DeLafayette Barn, 1910. Photo: Lynda Ramsey

Mathias B. Schaefer traveled to Oklahoma Territory and purchased his homestead in 1898 for \$700. The 160-acre farm had a sod house, sod barn, and sod hen house. In 1916 a neighboring farmer and carpenter, George Luber, designed and built the Schaefer cattle and hay barn. Tom Schaefer, says, "My great grandfather told the story that George Luber whistled all day long while he measured and hand cut all the lumber for the barn. They didn't have electricity then and the neighboring farmers would help put the barn together. George Luber, although he lived a few miles down the road, stayed with my great grandparents while the barn was built." The barn is now covered in sheets of metal and displays a large American Flag on the north ga-

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Schaefer and his wife have always lived on their wheat and cattle farm, and the barn is used for hay storage. The Schaefer family was awarded the Centennial Farm Award in 1998.



Mathias B. Schaefer Barn, 1916. Photo: Lynda Ramsey

The VonTungeln's barn is located on their farm just west of Fort Reno on Historic Highway 66. Donna VonTungeln says, "The barn was built by my Great Uncle Charles Leske who migrated from Iowa. The barn was built the same time as the house in 1894." Five generations of Leske-Seamands-VonTungeln's have lived in the historic home and the barn still provides protection for equipment and livestock. After the vertical wood siding and wood shingles deteriorated the barn was covered with sheets of metal. Hewn posts on the interior of the hay barn along with its dirt floor still allow space for equipment storage and livestock shelter. The Centennial Farm Award was given to the Leske-Seamands-VonTungeln Farm in 1999.



Leske-Seamands-Von Tungeln Barn, 1894. Photo: Lynda Ramsey

Early Oklahomans built their barns first while living in dug-outs. One such family was James Franklin Tredway when he purchased 121 acres in 1903 just north of Yukon. Their 120'x 90' broad gable barn provided shelter and dairy stanchions for 120 cattle. The half lofts above the stanchions allowed hay to be tossed down into the feeding troughs.

The Tredway family dairy, "Sanitary Dairy" was one of Oklahoma's largest dairies and provided milk for 20 years. The barn's axe-hewn posts still provide strong support to the structure. Iva Mae Tredway, daughter-in-law to James Tredway, remembers when recycled sheets of metal were found to cover the barn. Small holes where nails once held the metal siding to another structure covers this barn and provides a unique source of air ventilation to the structure. Arch and Sheri Tredway live on the farm where agriculture has been a successful enterprise. The Tredway



James Franklin Tredway Barn, 1909. Photo: Lynda Ramsey

family was presented the Centennial Farm Award in 2003.

The Centennial Farms Program, established by Governor Henry Bellmon in 1989, has recognized many of these barns fifty years old or older with the Historic Structures Award. This recognition of agricultural families and their contribution to early Oklahoma has been a significant step in preserving the early barn. Centennial families are proud of their land and their iconic farm structures. When Centennial Farm families remember their barn they remember family stories of hard work and play. The barn was an indispensable structure on the family farm and represented the success of the farming enterprise. Glen Roberson, Director of Oklahoma's Centennial Farm and Ranch Program says, "We must admire these descendants that have owned their land for one hundred years. They have withstood the Great Depression, Dust Bowl, and two World Wars." Even though the purpose of these few barns has receded, they have endured each of these eras as well as Oklahoma's turbulent weather and the danger of wild fires. These architectural survivors are the last remnants of Oklahoma's early agricultural history.

The Oklahoma Centennial Farm and Ranch Program is sponsored by the Oklahoma Historical Society and the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture. For information, visit the SHPO's website at www.okhistory.org/shpo/farmandranch.htm or contact Glen Roberson at 405/521-6387 or groberston@okhistory.org.



Former Douglass High School, Oklahoma City.
Photo: Justin Moore

Douglass High School/Page Woodson Center *Oklahoma City*

The first African American educational institution in Oklahoma City, Douglass High School occupied several locales before moving into the old Lowell School, where numerous community leaders taught and learned. Douglass was converted to Page Woodson Fifth Grade Center in 1954 and served in that capacity until 1994, when it closed permanently. This Oklahoma City landmark may be lost if action isn't taken soon.



Tulsa Club Building, Tulsa.
Photo: Tulsa Preservation Commission

Tulsa Club Building *Tulsa*

Designed by Bruce Goff early in his career, the glamorous Tulsa Club Building was completed in 1927 as a joint effort between the Tulsa Club and the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce. The building was abandoned in 1994 and steadily deteriorated for the next fifteen years, suffering through numerous fires. There are hopes that a potential developer will restore the building but much remains to be done.

Quanah Parker Star House *Cache*

Built around 1890, the Star House was the home of Quanah Parker, celebrated Comanche warrior and statesman. Nearly destroyed by Ft. Sill in the 1950s, the house was rescued and later moved to Eagle Park as part of a historical theme park. The Star House remains at Eagle Park - utilized by descendants of Quanah and the Comanche Nation for ceremonies and reunions - but is in serious need of stabilization.



Star House, Cache. Photo: Clara Ruddell

1600 NW 16th Street *Oklahoma City*

Emblematic of countless historic homes across Oklahoma and the nation, this home reveals the trials that face preservation efforts, even when the property is located in a National Register District. Despite the resurgence of the nearby Plaza District, and a good deal of preservation going on in surrounding areas, there are few safety nets in place to catch such a charming, but tragically typical, historic home.



1600 NW 16th, Oklahoma City.
Photo: Preservation Oklahoma

Continued on Page 11.

Muskogee Named a Distinctive Destination for 2011

In February, the National Trust for Historic Preservation named Muskogee, Oklahoma, as one of its Dozen Distinctive Destinations for 2011. Since 2000, the National Trust has recognized cities and towns that offer an authentic visitor experience through the combination of dynamic downtowns, cultural diversity, attractive architecture, cultural landscapes, and a strong commitment to historic preservation, sustainability, and revitalization. Muskogee previously has been recognized as a *Preserve America* Community in 2010 and has received numerous awards for its preservation efforts and Main Street program.

If you'd like to learn more about Muskogee, make a visit on May 7th and participate in the "This Place Matters" Historic Homes and Buildings Tour from 1:00-5:00pm. This is a repeat of an event initially hosted in partnership with Preservation Oklahoma in 2009 as part of Preservation Oklahoma's "This Place Matters" program. For more information please contact Downtown Muskogee Inc. at 918/683-2400 or muskogeemainstreet@gmail.com. If you are interested in bringing a "This Place Matters" event to your community, please contact Preservation Oklahoma at 405/525-5325 or preservationok@preservationok.org.

Special Opportunities for University Students and Architects

The State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to offer special opportunities to college and university students and architects who attend *Wide Open for Preservation: Oklahoma's 23rd Annual Statewide Preservation Conference* to be held June 8-10 in Guymon (*full conference registration and program details available in late April*).

The SHPO encourages students to attend the conference, and we believe they will find the special panel discussion about preservation careers on Friday morning, June 10th, of particular interest. Twenty (20) scholarships are available on a first-come basis to qualified Oklahoma college and university students. The scholarship covers the conference registration fee, and the application deadline is 5:00pm, Monday, May 2nd. For details and an application form contact Melvena Heisch, Deputy SHPO, at 405/522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org, or visit the SHPO's website at www.okhistory.org/shpo/conference.htm.

Also, the SHPO believes that the conference program includes many beneficial sessions for architects. For example, one session will feature Antonio Aguilar, Historic Architect, Technical Preservation Services, National Park Service, who reviews all Oklahoma applications for federal rehabilitation tax credits. Registered architects who attend the conference can earn American Institute of Architects Continuing Education System (AIA/CES) learning unit hours. Simply register for the conference and check in at the SHPO's table when you arrive at the registration location in Guymon. There are no additional fees for this service. **Self report your attendance at** <http://www.aia.org/education/index.htm>. The SHPO will provide written learning objectives at registration, and a certificate of attendance will be mailed to you after the conference.

For general conference information or questions, contact Melvena Heisch at the above telephone number or e-mail address.

Endangered List continued from Page 10

Chilocco Indian School *North of Ponca City*

Chilocco Indian School was established in 1884 as one of the initial large, off-reservation federal boarding schools intended to assimilate Native American youth. Closed as an educational facility since 1980, Chilocco is currently under consideration as a National Historic Landmark but also requires serious attention to the campus grounds.



Chilocco Indian School, Kay County.
Photo: Justin Moore

The listing of Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Places has been going on for nearly two decades. Each year, this list highlights places nominated by individuals, organizations, and communities concerned about the preservation of important places at risk.

While some buildings and sites once on the list have been demolished, an inspiring number of them have been saved or are in the midst of being rehabilitated. A full status update and compilation of past years' lists is available on Preservation Oklahoma's website at www.preservationok.org. Additional information about each of the sites on this year's list is available, as well.

If there is a site or building in your community that you feel is at risk and needs assistance, or if you would like help in raising awareness about the history of your community and the importance of historic preservation, please contact Preservation Oklahoma at preservationok@preservationok.org, or at 405/525-5325. Representatives of Preservation Oklahoma would be happy to meet with community groups, organizations, elected officials, or property owners to discuss the Endangered Historic Places list and other programming opportunities available.



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(see inside for more information)

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